

The Middlebury Campus

FEBRUARY 18, 2016 | VOL. 114 NO. 14 | MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

Three Faculty Members Granted Tenure

By Mitchell Perry
Staff Writer

Last month, the College awarded tenure and the title of associate professor to three faculty members — Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Chong-suk Han, Associate Professor of Spanish Enrique Garcia and Associate Professor of German Natalie Eppelsheimer.

Han and Garcia both expressed delight in receiving tenure, but emphasized that their tenured status would not affect their commitment to their students, to their research or to their roles in the College community.

For Han, receiving tenure “gives you the freedom to take the time you need to really think about what’s ‘next’ and how you want to grow as a scholar and a teacher.” However, Han does not foresee his tenured status having a large impact on his course content or on his academic research. As Han explained it, this is because Middlebury encourages professors, even those without the “protection of tenure,” to research and to teach about topics that inter-

est them — no matter how controversial those topics may be.

Echoing Han’s sentiments, Garcia stated, “I don’t want to become a ‘batata’ after tenure, and become lacking in service, teaching and research.” He explained that “batata” is a Caribbean-Spanish term for a person who is “as inert as a yam waiting on the floor to be picked up.” For Garcia, receiving tenure is validation for what he described as his unique teaching style. For instance, Garcia recently worked with his J-term class to create a Spanish-language film on zombie apocalypse, which Garcia acted in.

“The fact that I have tenure puts me as a different model of professor that students see, [and] I think that I could also be a model for other professors,” Garcia said.

Eppelsheimer was unavailable for comment. But, in an email to the *Campus*, Chair of the German Department Roman Graf, praised Eppelsheimer’s ability to create “a comfortable, student-centered classroom in which she functions as a conduit of information and impulses to activate her students.” Ac-

SEE NEWLY TENURED, PAGE 2

Petition Calls For Additional Gender-Neutral Bathrooms

By Nicole Caci
Contributing Writer

A new student petition, viewable at go/peeinpeace, urges the College to make all of its bathrooms in public spaces — such as libraries, dining halls and academic buildings — gender-neutral. Octavio Hingle-Webster ’17 and Matea Mills-Andruk ’18.5 are spearheading the campaign. Hingle-Webster’s involvement is inspired by personal experience.

“During the past year I have begun my transition from being a man to being someone who is neither a man nor woman,” they said. “When I go to the bathroom I often don’t know which one to go into, and I don’t necessarily feel safe going into the men’s or women’s bathroom depending on what I am wearing or how I’m feeling that day, and I know a lot of other people share these kinds of concerns.”

Hingle-Webster’s concerns have been expressed by the

transgender and gender non-conforming community in the past. As a result, gender inclusive bathrooms do exist on campus, specifically on residence halls where students decide whether or not to have them at the beginning of each semester, and in the McCullough Student Center.

In 2011, after collaborating with an ad hoc group of students that published a review of the potential student life issues for the transgender community, the College announced its plan to create more gender-neutral restrooms. The specific goal was to provide support for the safety and health of Middlebury’s transgender students, faculty and staff. By the start of the 2011-2012 academic year, the signs of all non-residential single stall restrooms were changed to include both male and female symbols, as well as the universal symbol of accessibility. But because not all spaces have single-stall bathrooms, the project was limited, and has not

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 2

AS 2015.5 SKIS AWAY, 2019.5 MOVES IN



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

Over February Break, the class of 2015.5 skied down the Ski Bowl to family and friends waiting below (top). The graduation was featured in the *Wall Street Journal* last week. After the graduation festivities were over, orientation leaders welcomed the class of 2019.5 (bottom).

Off-Campus Approvals Dwindle

By Christian Jambora
News Editor

The annual off-campus housing lottery was conducted on Tuesday, Feb. 16 in Crossroads Café as a part of the 2016-17 Housing Process. The lottery brought the total number of students approved to live-off campus next fall to 75, marking a nearly 25 percent drop from last year’s 95 and the preceding year’s 106.

According to Associate Dean of Students for Residential and Student Life Doug Adams, the ongoing construction of the new Ridgeline Residence Complex served as the greatest factor in the decision to lower the off-campus approval number for the upcoming academic year. Upon completion, the complex — which will consist of four buildings with townhouse and suite-style apartments — is set to provide new housing for 158 upperclassmen students.

“In the spring of 2015, the College announced that the new construction would serve three purposes: the removal of the Mods, the return of residential lounges currently used as rooms and the reduction in the number

of students living off-campus,” said Adams. “The new housing is on track to open this fall and we anticipate continuing with all of these plans.”

Concerns regarding townhouse relations and off-campus incidents with partying were not responsible for the upcoming school year’s approval drop.

“The reduction in the number of students living off-campus has been our plan since the announcement [of the new residence complex] last year,” Adams said.

The lottery was a random selection process that permitted students to apply as individuals or groups of up to eight peers. 28 students currently living off campus extended their status to the fall semester, leaving 47 spots available to be included in this year’s lottery. In total, 119 students applied for these remaining spots and were invited to observe the process, which was intentionally made transparent to mitigate concerns of tampering.

Controversy rose last year when several students accused the administration of rigging the lottery against varsity athletes who may have been likely

to throw off-campus parties. 37 varsity athletes applied and only eight were accepted. A study conducted by the Paige-Wright Professor of Economics Paul Somers reported the probability of this outcome occurring was .0035 percent. However, Adams maintained the lottery was and continues to be completely random and noted it has always been an open process that permits students to observe the proceedings.

The only change to this year’s lottery was the creation of a “reserve list” that included students who were not selected to live off campus. Applicants in this list will be contacted in the event there is an emergency need for students to live off campus. However, Adams does not anticipate such a need for the upcoming year, remaining optimistic the Ridgeline Housing Complex will be ready by its projected September 2016 completion date.

In an article released following the announcement of the construction project, Adams said, “The design of these buildings will allow students to live near their academic and social centers while continuing the small-community feel they’ve enjoyed in the ‘mods’ or off campus.”

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CHICAGO SHOWS
DESPICABLE POWER
OF PRESS

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL

By Nick Garber
Community Council Correspondent
& Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Jan. 26, members of the newly-formed Bias Response Team visited Community Council to present their group's mission and invite feedback.

"The three core pieces of what we are thinking as we move forward are prevention, education and response," said AJ Place, associate dean for judicial affairs and student life and member of the Bias Response Team.

The purpose of the team, members explained, was to address incidents of bias that may not have been addressed in the past, due to problems with categorization.

"One of the tricky points for us was figuring out where bias begins and ends versus discrimination and harassment," explained Miguel Fernandez, professor of Spanish and interim chief diversity officer.

They offered the example of unintentionally offensive humor, which may not be considered harassment or discrimination, but which is capable of harming students' well-being. The team does not have disciplinary authority, but members emphasized that the College would be able to discipline individuals while the Bias Response Team continues to act on a case.

In terms of education, the team shared that they plan to publicly summarize recent cases, potentially through a column in the *Campus*. Fernandez said that one of the team's immediate goals was simply to promote awareness of the existence of the Bias Response Team, while Place hoped that over time, the team could play a role in a larger cultural shift on campus.

Next, the Council witnessed a proposal from Charles Rainey '19 and Student Co-Chair Tiff Chang '17.5 primarily regarding the "MLK Today" event held at Mead Chapel on Jan. 18. According to Rainey and Chang, the event featured "numerous highly offensive and post-racial actions" including "a mainly-white chorus repeating direct quotes from Dr. King" and "white students delivering quotes that police people of colors' reactions to racism."

In addition, they cited controversial comments made by Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in December's *Fisher v. University of Texas* case, in which he implied that black students may suffer academically at elite institutions. Rainey and Chang proposed that President of the College Laurie L. Patton send a campus-wide email within three days addressing the two incidents.

Fernandez shared a response from Patton in which she discussed the College's progress on the thirteen action points presented at the Town Hall Meeting in December and shared her plans to write extensively on the Fisher case, but cautioned that she cannot comment publicly on every issue she deeply disagrees with, especially before discussions between the offended parties have taken place.

On Tuesday, Feb. 2, Community Council voted on a recommendation from Dining Software Intern Myles Kamisher-Koch to cease the sale of energy drinks at on-campus retail food locations. The Council debated the recommendation, and while some expressed concern over a potential intrusion into students' freedom of choice, the majority of members strongly supported the measure.

"It wouldn't ban their use," explained Fiona Mohamed '18 — instead, it is only their sale on campus that would be restricted.

The Council eventually approved the recommendation by a vote of 11 to 1. The recommendation will now go to Patton.

Afterwards, the Council intended to vote on Rainey and Chang's recommendation from the prior week. While many on the Council voiced their support for the larger effort to affirm that students of color belong on campus, several suggested that they were uncomfortable with the recommendation's language, which appeared to directly link the "MLK Today" event with the comments made by Justice Scalia.

Ultimately, while five members voted to proceed with a formal vote on the recommendation, six voted to table it until the Council's next meeting in the Spring semester.

Newly Tenured Professors Talk Teaching

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cording to Graf, her promotion had the unanimous support of her colleagues in the German department.

Outside the classroom, Han, Garcia, and Eppelsheimer have all made significant contributions to academic research.

According to the College's press release, Han's research has contributed to a better "understanding of the intersection between race and sexuality for Asian Americans." Just last year, the NYU Press published his latest book entitled *Geisha of a Different Kind: Negotiating Gay Asian Male Identities*.

"Garcia is one of the foremost scholars of Latin/o American visual culture and media studies in the United States," the press release states. In addition to his first book, *Cuban Cinema After the Cold War*, Garcia is in the process of writing another entitled *Los Bros Hernandez*.

Of Eppelsheimer's research, the press

release states, "Her contributions to the theoretical understanding of the relationship between language acquisition and intercultural competency speak to one of the foundations of a Middlebury education." Additionally, she is currently working on a book about German-Jewish exiles in Kenya.

Finding the balance between the demands of their scholarly research and their commitment to teaching students has not been as challenging as one might expect for Han and Garcia. In fact, both believe that their research has benefited from their engagement with students and vice versa.

"The time I spend teaching really strengthens my research and the time I spend doing research really strengthens my teaching," Han said. Han believes that his students' engagement with his latest research material in the classroom helps him think differently about his work.

Garcia also tries to create classes that are engaging for students, but at the same time benefit his research. He feels that keeping up with research is necessary for being a good teacher.

"You could be great inside the classroom, people love you, and classes are fun," he said. "But, if you become outdated, then your classes begin to fail. It is like you're stuck teaching what you learned in grad school."

While both received the same honor, Han and Garcia celebrated receiving tenure in very different ways. Han wrote that he celebrated with a dinner and small get together, but his "real" celebration plans have yet to be determined. Garcia, on the other hand, threw a 24-hour party at his house that began at 10 a.m. on a Saturday and ended at 10 a.m. the next day, and said that he stayed up for the entire event.

WILLIAM FINNEGAN TO GIVE TALK ON NEW MEMOIR

By Ellie Reinhardt
News Editor

William Finnegan has spent his career writing and reporting for *The New Yorker*, but his auto-biography, *Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life*, exposes a life dedicated to surfing and the search for the perfect wave. This Tuesday, Feb. 23, Finnegan will present his new memoir to the College community and discuss how surfing, writing, reporting and growing up have shaped his life.

Finnegan has been a contributor at *The New Yorker* since 1984 and a staff writer since 1987. He has been recognized for his work with a number of literary awards, including the John Bartlow Martin Award for "Public Interest Magazine Journalism," the Edward M. Brecher Award for Achievement in the Field of Media for his article "Deep East Texas" in 1994, the Sidney Hillman Prize for Magazine Reporting for "The Unwanted" and the James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism for "Leasing the Rain." He has also been a National Magazine Award finalist twice and has won two Overseas Press Club awards. His novel, *Crossing the Line* was selected by the *New York Times* Book Review as one of the ten best nonfiction books of the year.

Finnegan has spent time around the world covering regional wars, famines, coups and organized crime in an effort to uncover the stories that hard news cannot. He started his career with an M.F.A. in fiction from the University of Montana and as a creative writer and novelist. However, while working as a teacher in Cape Town in 1980, towards the end of South Africa's apartheid era, he decided to dedicate his



COURTESY OF WILLIAM FINNEGAN

career to journalism. In an interview with the *Campus*, he said of the experience, "I found myself suddenly losing interest in the sort of fiction I was writing. Only politics seemed important."

From there, Finnegan began to travel throughout Africa, Central America, South America, Europe, the Balkans, Australia and the United States in search of the people and communities entrenched in the conflicts of some of the most war-torn and crime-ridden areas. "I'm interested in power, conflict, injustice, how people cope," he said. "I look for people who are living the news, and people whom I can spend a lot of time with, and then, sometimes, when it goes well, I end up with a story that revises, or at least refines, colors in, the conventional understanding of what's going on in, say, Somalia, or a

cartel-dominated part of Mexico."

Although his career was dominated by politics, Finnegan's life, and his memoir, reveal a passion and obsession for the "ocean-centered world" of surfing. Although the two did not often go hand-in-hand, "there is a rough similarity between trying to figure out a new wave and trying to figure out a story in an unfamiliar place. You have to get your bearings, learn a lot of highly local information, and start applying it," he said.

Finnegan, raised in California and Hawaii, spent his childhood learning to surf and devoting his time to the community and culture of surfing. "It's a world that non-surfers know little about, and it has nothing to do with the surf imagery strewn around pop culture and advertising," he said.

With his memoir, Finnegan has set off to bring a literary voice to the world of surfing, however disconnected the two might be. Of his decision to focus on surfing, Finnegan said that he was at first against the idea. He said, "Writing about surfing felt like coming out of a certain closet. It was a big part of my life, but not something I liked to talk about."

He continued, "There was no good reason to write such a book — the world definitely didn't need it. But I've spent a ridiculous amount of time and energy chasing waves."

Finnegan's devotion to the sport and its influence on his life and work become obvious as he unravels the adventures of his life on the ocean and across the world.

Finnegan will present *Barbarian Days* this Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 4:30 p.m. in the Axinn Center at Starr Library in the Abernathy Room.

STUDENTS CALL FOR GENDER-NEUTRALITY IN PUBLIC RESTROOMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been thoroughly addressed since.

"There was a lot of work to get gender neutral bathrooms in place in 2011, and I truly appreciate that," Hingle-Webster said. "But it seems like the administration conveniently [forgot] that this is still an ongoing issue for a lot of students here."

The petition questions the College's consistent placement of "cisgender [comfort]" over the very real needs of trans and gender non conforming people in public places.

"This is a question of safety at Middlebury, and if students are being harassed in these bathrooms, or suffering severe psychological harm, then we need to change," Hingle-Webster said.

Hingle-Webster suggested that not only would the proposed changes make bathrooms a safer space for trans and gen-

der non-conforming students, but it might also cause all students to question their understanding of gender as a rigid binary. Physical male-female separation is observable in many spaces, but in bathrooms that distinction is clear through signage and experienced on a daily basis.

To students who might feel uncomfortable sharing a bathroom with a member of the opposite gender, Hingle-Webster suggests that gender is a construct that is based in how we see ourselves and understand ourselves to be. Despite this, rendering all bathrooms gender neutral, not just the single stall ones, would be a huge adjustment for Middlebury, and potentially sensitive for some.

Students interested in furthering the gender-neutral bathrooms mission at Middlebury should visit go/peeinpeace to read the entire petition.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Trivia Night

Take a study break and test your trivia skills this Thursday at Crossroads Café. THURSDAY AT 9 P.M. IN CROSSROADS CAFÉ

Zumba!

Have fun dancing and get your exercise in for the day. Zumba is the perfect way to have fun with your friends! SUNDAY AT 4 P.M. IN WILSON HALL

Yoga Classes

It doesn't matter if you can do the Lotus or Warrior 2 pose, join us for some relaxing yoga this Monday. MONDAY AT 7 P.M. IN MITCHELL GREEN LOUNGE

LOCAL

The Middlebury Campus

COMMUNITY FORUM IN MIDDLEBURY DISCUSSES BRIDGE RENOVATIONS

By Ethan Peterson-New
Contributing Writer

On Jan. 31 and Feb. 4, a community forum met to talk over the proposed project to repair the railroad bridges in downtown Middlebury. The plan has drawn significant local opposition due to its anticipated effects on the downtown, as well as the potential for ecological damage to Otter Creek.

Construction is slated to begin this summer, primarily with federal funding.

Neighbors Together, a group formed from several existing bodies such as the Addison County Chamber of Commerce and the Better Middlebury Partnership, hosted the forums at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. About eighty people, most from the local community, attended the two sessions. The forums focused on the broad issues that will arise as a result of the project.

The church was a fitting location for the meeting, since it stands at the crux of the two bridges. It will feel the effects of prolonged construction most directly, both in terms of noise and of the potential for damage.

Eric Davis, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the College, represents St. Stephen's on the steering team. He posed the discussion's central question as the following: "What are values,

qualities, characteristics of Middlebury that need to be preserved and protected during the upcoming railroad bridge construction project?"

Out of this earnest discussion of the town's values, three issues came to the fore: accessibility in the downtown area, the economic viability of downtown businesses and the town's continuing role as a cultural and community hub.

If the project goes forward as proposed, the two overpasses could be closed for extended periods of time, severely limiting both vehicular and pedestrian access. This could hamper the ability of local businesses to make the profits they need to survive. As of now, no plan to compensate businesses for their lost sales has gained much traction.

Another concern raised during the forum was the noise level caused by constant construction.

The current proposal calls for 20 hour workdays and heavy supply trains passing through regularly.

One suggestion from Neighbors Together was to allow for a flexible construction schedule to accommodate community events, like the various downtown festivals throughout the year and performances at the Town Hall Theater.

The major question remains, how-

"The town is a really wonderful resource for college students, and that would be a real shame for the college if that were to go away in a cloud of construction smoke."

JACK DESBOIS '15
MIDDLEBURY RESIDENT



COURTESY ADDISON EAGLE

A construction team walks along a section of the railroad track near Otter Creek.

ever, whether a modified project would be able to receive federal funding. The project is estimated to cost 40 million dollars.

Since the only plans that reduce the amount of construction would not meet national requirements for the bridges' heights, a change to the plans could endanger federal funding.

Most residents do admit that the bridges are overdue for repairs, and some disruption to the downtown is inevitable. However, the size of the project is far from settled, and will directly determine the scope of the disturbance.

Neighbors Together plans to hold two more forums on Sunday, Feb. 21 at 3 p.m., and Thursday, Feb. 25 at 6 p.m., also at St. Stephen's Church. In these sessions they hope to address more specific strategies for coping with the disruptions in order to protect Middle-

bury's vibrant downtown. They will use the themes from the first two forums as starting points for their discussion.

Jack Desbois '15, a recent graduate of the College and resident of Middlebury, would like to see Middlebury students get more involved with the initiative.

"The town is a really wonderful resource for college students," he said, "and that would be a real shame for the College if that were to go away in a cloud of construction smoke."

Desbois believes the College is an integral part of the community, and that students can play an active role in the continuing discussions about the town of Middlebury's values.

Students will have the opportunity to have their voices heard at the forums in the coming weeks.

Death of Supreme Court Justice Ignites Partisan Debate

By Harry Cramer
Local Editor

The unexpected death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia has infused the Democratic and Republican primaries with new drama. Last Friday, Feb. 12, Scalia was found dead of natural causes at a luxury resort in West Texas. He was 79 years old.

Both Vermont Senators Bernie Sanders (I) and Patrick Leahy (D) offered Scalia and his family their condolences on Friday, describing Scalia as a "brilliant" and "colorful" judge.

Sanders issued the following statement:

"While I differed with Justice Scalia's views and jurisprudence, he was a brilliant, colorful and outspoken member of the Supreme Court. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and his colleagues on the court who mourn his passing."

The presidential hopeful initially kept a low profile during the political malestrom, hoping to insulate the political momentum generated by his victory in New Hampshire.

However, at a Democratic dinner last Saturday, he criticized Republicans for their obstructionism.

"It appears that some of my Republican colleagues in the Senate have a very interesting view of the Constitution of the United States," Sanders said. "Apparently they believe that the Constitution does not allow a Democratic president to bring forth a nominee to replace Justice Scalia. I strongly disagree with that."

Following Scalia's death, Democrats have argued that it is incumbent upon the Legislature to approve a new judge as quickly as possible, and by delaying an appointment they abdicate their duty as elected officials.

Senator Patrick Leahy (D) of Vermont has been at the forefront of this political battle.

"The Supreme Court of the United States is too important to our democracy for it to be understaffed for partisan reasons," read his statement in response to Scalia's death. "It is only February. The President and the Senate should get to work without delay to nominate, consider

and confirm the next justice to serve on the Supreme Court."

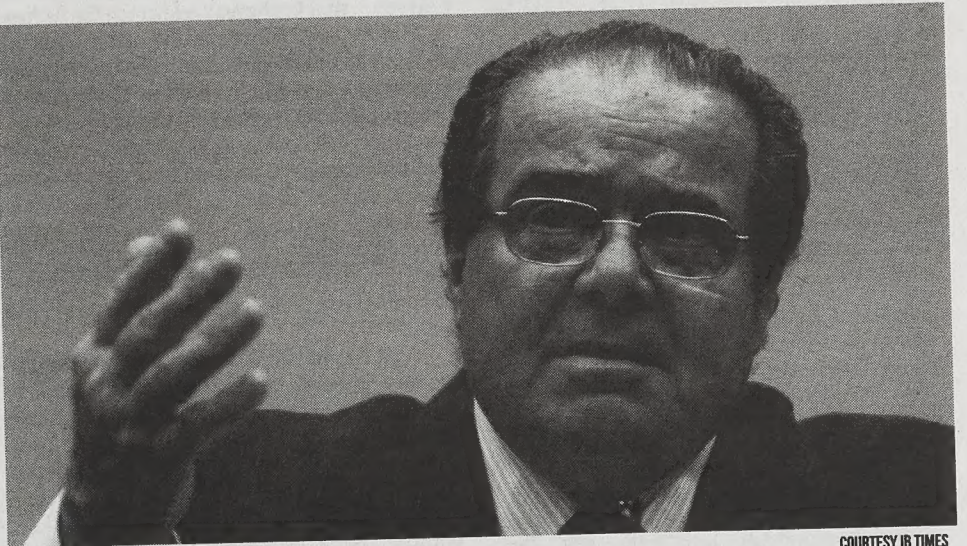
Republicans, on the other hand, have urged President Obama to refrain from appointing a new Justice. They argue that the decision should be left to the next president, who will better represent the desires of the American people.

On Fox News Sunday, Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (R) explained that the Senate is not obligated to approve an Obama appointment. Although he acknowledged that Obama can constitutionally nominate a new justice, he still must seek Senate approval.

"The Senate has no obligation to shift

"The Senate has no obligation to shift this court, for the next 30 years, radically to the left in the last year of the Obama presidency."

SPEAKER NEWT GINGRICH (R)



COURTESY IB TIMES

Justice Antonin Scalia, well known for his acerbic legal writing, died at the age of 79.

this court for the next 30 years radically to the left in the last year of the Obama presidency," said Gingrich.

The GOP holds a majority in the Senate and could block an Obama nomination. Historically, the rejection of a Supreme Court nominee is rare - but not unprecedented. The last time a justice was rejected was in 1987, when Senate Democrats rejected Reagan's nominee Robert H. Bork.

At the moment, it is unclear whether Obama will nominate a more moderate judge likely to survive a partisan showdown, or whether he will opt to select a more liberal justice.

Sri Srinivasan, an Asian-American appointed previously to a post on the D.C.

Circuit Court of Appeals, reaches across the aisle, as does his colleague Merrick Garland.

However, should Obama choose to nominate a judge that the Senate then rejects, it is unclear whether Republicans could retain control of the Senate. Although Republicans currently have a slight majority in the Senate, 24 Republican seats are up for reelection in November.

Senator Leahy was skeptical of Republican maneuvering.

"If the Republican leadership refuses to even hold a hearing," he said in an interview with CNN, "I think that is going to guarantee they're going to lose control of the Senate."

Without a ninth justice, the Supreme Court could arrive at 4-4 split decisions on a number of key issues. If this were to happen, the cases would be sent down to appellate courts for a ruling.

OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Lightening the Load For Incoming Febs

You may notice 100 new faces walking around Campus this week: the new Febs. We know what you're thinking and, yes, this is another editorial on how to improve the Feb program. *The Campus* welcomes the Class

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

of 2019.5 and would like to wish them luck in fielding the inevitable small-talk staple, "What did you do on your Febmester?"

Middlebury promotes the Febmester as a time for educational enrichment, advertising students studying at the Sorbonne, trekking through

the Himalayas or interning near home. The time is open and totally theirs: there are no requirements, no credits to fulfill, no Feb bonding programs to go on. While we applaud the freedom that the program allows, we think that some are left overwhelmed by options or without funding to do what they want to do. Programs abroad are expensive and internships require connections. We do not buy into the stereotype of a "good Feb experience," one all too frequently characterized by an exotic trip abroad instead of a local job near home. All Febs should spend their semesters as they wish, without pressure to live up to a particular ideal. Valuable experiences are not marked by extravagance. We do, however, want all Febs to spend their semesters intentionally, aware of the options available to them and with increased resources available to accomplish whatever they wish to do.

There are easy and inexpensive ways for the College to improve the Febmester experience. Many Febs on our Editorial Board recall being sent an uninformative pamphlet and then being set free for the longest unstructured period of their cognitive lives. The expanse of empty months before them was daunting—even paralyzing—as they attempted to decide what to do. The *Campus* proposes a mentorship program connecting incoming Febs to older Febs. The College could distribute a list that profiles Febs from older grades, including where they are from, their majors and how

they spent their time before Middlebury. Incoming Febs could then contact older Febs to chat about their similar interests or to ask questions about an internship. These mentor-mentee relationships would help those who don't know what to do with their time off, as well as facilitate friendships that will continue when they get to campus.

This is particularly important when considering that not all Febs wanted the semester off. On the Middlebury application, there are three options: Preferred regular admit, preferred feb admit, or either. All three choices leave open the possibility of being deferred a semester. As a result, 6 percent of students admitted for February during regular decision were not originally open to taking time off. More structure—or at least clearer and more comprehensive options—may ease the apprehension of students who did not anticipate February admission.

The College could also go a step further, though at a greater expense, and provide resources for student travel. For example, there could be funds set aside to support Febs on pricey abroad programs that provide students an educational and structured travel experience across the globe. Many students have the resources to go on these trips, while others who may desire to do the same lack opportunity. Middlebury could even go as far to host its own Middlebury-sponsored abroad programs, possibly run through select schools abroad, at a reduced price. We can learn from

peer institutions like Colby and Hamilton, who have similar "Jan" programs that offer their students the chance to spend their first semester studying abroad while earning college credit. Colby and Hamilton's programs are designed to keep Jans on track to gradu-

ate in the Spring, which is a different cultural institution than Middlebury's Feb program. However, the idea of being able to spend the semester with fellow Febs provides a structured option to those without a clear idea of what they want to do, as well as eases the transition to campus.

Travel is certainly not the only productive way to spend a Febmester. The Center for Careers and Internships (CCI) could utilize its infrastructure to reserve internships with alums for students on their Febmasters, or at least provide students with opportunities to interview. In addition, the CCI could allocate some of its internship grant money to support unpaid fall internships.

For those who prefer to stay home and get a paying job or volunteer at a local non-profit, we applaud you. We believe that there should be more opportunities for students to opt into if they desire to do so, though students should also have the freedom to do what they wish with their time off. Our hope is that all Febs have the adequate information and resources to spend their semesters with intention. There is no right or wrong answer to "how did you spend your Febmester?"

Like September admission, matriculating as a February admit comes with its advantages and disadvantages. While some first-year Febs enjoy living in upperclassmen dorms their first term, others feel they miss out on the quintessential freshman hall experience. Febs who want to study abroad often feel pressed for time to fulfill language requirements. Others thrive in their close-knit community of 100 peers. Clearly, the February admission program is unique and beloved by many who have done it. While ups and downs are inevitable, the *Campus* believes that offering pen-pal mentoring, as well as considering subsidized Febmester programs or formalized internships, will help incoming Febs make the most of their gap semester. All Febs should be equipped with the resources to have the Febmester they desire—whatever it may be—and Middlebury can do more to help these plans come to fruition.

The Middlebury Campus

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The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS5 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT, 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, VT, 05753.



A WORTHWHILE ARGUMENT

I write at the start of a new semester to address an important and timely issue relating to diversity and inclusivity in higher education—one that is of great relevance for us here at Middlebury. Sometime before the end of June, the United States Supreme Court is likely to issue a decision in an important case now before it, *Fisher vs. the University of Texas at Austin*, which centers on the right of colleges and universities to include race as one factor in admissions decisions. Without question, the recent death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who consistently opposed the use of race as a factor in college admissions, has added to the uncertainty surrounding this case.

As it has in similar cases in the past, Middlebury joined other colleges and universities in filing an amicus curiae ("friend of the court") brief in *Fisher*, spelling out our position that we "have a compelling education interest in enrolling broadly diverse—including racially diverse—classes, and cannot do so without taking the diversity [we] strive for into account." That compelling interest is about

NOTES FROM OLD CHAPEL

Laurie L. Patton is the President of Middlebury College

providing access for and welcoming students of color to our intellectual community.

In my inauguration address last fall, I spent some time exploring what it means to have a worthwhile argument. A worthwhile argument is an argument to establish a greater understanding and a better community. A worthwhile argument doesn't undermine another person's dignity and integrity. Middlebury's participation in the *Fisher* case is just such an argument.

To understand Middlebury's role, it's important to understand the basic details of the *Fisher* case, as it's commonly known. It's the latest in a long line of civil lawsuits centering on affirmative action to reach the Supreme Court, stretching back to 1978's *Regents of the University of California vs. Bakke*, in which the court barred the use of racial quotas. *Fisher* centers on the constitutionality

of the University of Texas at Austin's admission policies, which allow the consideration of race as one of several "plus" factors in a small percentage of admission decisions. A young white woman, Abigail Fisher, first filed the case in 2009 after she was denied entrance to UT Austin in favor, she says, of a student of color with a less qualified academic record. The Project on Fair Representation, a legal defense fund active in attempts to overturn race-based laws, assembled her legal team.

Fisher's case moved through lower courts, which upheld the university's admission policies. The Supreme Court first heard the case in 2012 and sent it back to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals for further consideration. That court again ruled in favor of the University of Texas, and again, Fisher again appealed to the Supreme Court.

Many comments made in December in the argument of this case were deeply troubling not only to me personally but for institutions of higher learning as well. When Gregory Garre, the University of Texas's lawyer, suggested that diversity would plummet if universities are not permitted to consider race in their admission decisions, Scalia invoked the highly disputed "mismatch theory," suggesting that: "There are those who contend that it does not benefit African Americans to get them into the University of Texas where they do not do well, as opposed to having them go to a less advanced school, a... slower track school where they do well. I'm just not impressed by the fact that the University of Texas may have fewer. Maybe it ought to have fewer."

Chief Justice John Roberts' remarks were equally and sorrowfully disturbing. "What unique perspective does a black student bring to a class in physics?" he asked. (For a brilliant reply, I encourage you to read the open letter that thousands of scientists sent to the Supreme Court.)

Educator and leader W.E.B. DuBois wrote more than 100 years ago that "The function of the university is...to be the organ of that fine adjustment between real life and the growing knowledge of life, an adjustment which forms the secret of civilization." It is distressing that, at the highest court in the land, we are still having an argument about the worth of students of color in the classroom and whether

universities have the right to seek diversity in order to achieve the function that DuBois celebrates. Middlebury's experience, like those of the other colleges and universities that signed the amicus curiae, is that inclusive practices create academic excellence. Beyond the intrinsic good of diversity, students of color have earned their place at Middlebury and other institutions and they are a crucial part of and vibrant contributors to our community.

Scalia's death last week has further highlighted our fractured national political landscape. I won't comment on Scalia's legal philosophy or his place in history. That analysis is best left to others who study this field deeply. And, we do not know how the *Fisher* case will be decided—or even if it will be in the wake of Scalia's death. It remains possible that the circuit court's opinion in *Fisher* will be upheld, overturned, or the case will be reargued in the future. We hope that the Supreme Court will fully appreciate this worthwhile argument.

In the meantime, we are proud to be part of this national debate, and we will continue with our own efforts to make Middlebury a more inclusive community for those already here and who will join us in the future. I encourage you refer to my campus email of January 29, 2016, "Update On Our Inclusivity Efforts," to see where we have traveled together so far. I know that we will sometimes fall short of our own goals and intentions. But our commitment remains steadfast and energetic.

In that spirit, I took note of the concern students expressed about a need for more sensitivity and appropriate representation for the Martin Luther King Jr. event at Mead Chapel in January. In response, and after a constructive dialogue following the event, we will make changes in the design of such events in the future, so that students of color can lead if they choose to do so. We will continue to work hard to be watchful and listen carefully to each other in the hope that we will better see and hear all the issues that at stake in our community.

As we begin the spring semester, I eagerly anticipate more honest, compassionate, open and worthwhile arguments. Let us recommit ourselves to the spirit of understanding. In doing so, we will find ourselves in closer community, more committed to one another, not afraid to fail and not afraid to try.

I'm Only Human

I am a white student who has "white privilege" and who has committed hundreds of "micro-aggressions" through-

READER OP-ED

Katrina Drury '19 is
from Cincinnati, New York

out my life due to my "ignorance" of other cultures. There. That's what most of you want me to say. But now, please allow me to say what I really feel. I warn you, though, you may not want to hear what I have to say. I don't care about being politically correct, and if people don't like my opinion, so be it. I have listened to many of your opinions on matters of race and diversity, so I hope you will at least be tolerant enough to listen to mine.

Honestly, I'm sick and tired of all this politically correct talk of racial equality and white privilege and micro-aggressions. I've actually grown to hate it, because that's all I hear about - don't say this because you might offend this group of people, don't wear that be-

cause you might offend that group of people. We're constantly being instructed on what to say and do in order to have a more caring and inclusive community, and I don't know about you, but I hate that.

Not the part about living together in peace and equality - that's definitely a very admirable goal - but rather, I hate having to censor every word I utter and monitor every action I make just to avoid offending some-

one and being branded as a racist, sexist, or whatever other -ist there is. Life is complicated enough, so why make it more complicated by making everyone over-analyze everything to find and prevent micro-aggressions? Let's face it, there are more important things to be

worrying about. Elsewhere in the world, terrorists are beheading Christians who won't convert to Islam, homosexuals are getting arrested and even killed because of their lifestyle, "refugees" are raping

women because they see women as inferior, and innocent children are being burned alive. And people here find it upsetting when someone wears a sombrero?

In reality, the micro-aggressions aren't the problem.

People are the problem. We have developed such a thin skin, taking everything personally and getting offended at the tiniest things. We're lucky we live in a country where we have the kind of luxury to whine about people hurting our feelings. At least our feelings are all that are hurt.

"Honestly, I'm sick and tired of all this politically correct talk of racial equality and white privilege and micro-aggressions. I've actually grown to hate it, because that's all I hear about."

National Mentoring Month

January was National Mentoring Month! We at Community Engagement wanted to say: Thank you to our Middlebury College mentors!

National Mentoring Month (NMM) was created by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and MENTOR in 2002. The month aims to focus national attention on the need for men-

on young lives with the goals of raising awareness of mentoring in its various forms, recruiting individuals to mentor and promoting the rapid growth of mentoring by recruiting organizations to engage their constituents in mentoring. This year, NMM's theme is Mentor in Real Life, lending way to discussion of mentoring's real life benefits. In Vermont, the organization Mobius, Vermont's Mentoring Partnership, is an NMM ambassador.

The month works to celebrate and set apart the special role that mentors play in the lives of others through various events and days of gratitude. All the while, we must remember that our involvement, gratitude and excitement for volunteerism and mentorship cannot be contained to a single month, and instead needs to carry us throughout the entire year. It's never too late to go forth and thank the mentors in your life, and

to also consider stepping up as a mentor in the life of someone else!

Interested in volunteering as a mentor? Here at Middlebury, Community Engagement supports a number of student-led mentoring programs, including: Community Friends (1-1 mentoring for local children) and Xiao Pengyou, DREAM (group-based mentoring), MiddCAM (high school student mentoring for college-access ini-

tiatives), Sister-to-Sister and Brother-to-Brother (with a focus on middle school children), Page-1 Literacy (school-based literacy programs) and NOM (nutritional outreach and mentoring). To find out more about any of these programs or how to get involved, visit go/CE. Questions? Contact Nestor Martinez with Community Engagement at nmartinez@middlebury.edu or at 802-443-3010.

"We must remember that our involvement, gratitude and excitement for volunteerism and mentorship cannot be contained to a single month ... It's never too late to go forth and thank the mentors in your life, and to also consider stepping up as a mentor in the life of someone else!"

READER OP-ED

Nestor Martinez '10 on behalf of
Community Engagement

tors, highlighting how we all—individuals, business, government agencies, schools, faith communities and nonprofits—can do our part. For the past 14 years, NMM has celebrated mentoring and the positive effect it can have

CONVERSATION IN CONFINES

Just prior to the start of February Break, SGA President Ilana Gratch sent an email to notify the student body of a SGA Senate Resolution condemning Supreme Court Associate Justice Scalia's comments during the Oral Arguments in the case of *Fisher v. University of Texas*. I'm writing to address both the

READER OP-ED

Rachel Frank '16 is from Lafayette, CA

content of the email and the Resolution itself, which I see as emblematic of a broader issue in our community.

SGA President Gratch's email reiterates what we have been hearing for months: we need to have more conversations at Middlebury, particularly about race. However, despite her earnest endeavor for us to be "engaging in these conversations" and "grappling with the challenges that accompany them," she only offers support for one side of the debate. There is no inherent issue with a "cultural representative" to the SGA or an offer to help students

interact with the administration. However, we cannot concurrently claim to be fostering honest debate about a controversial subject yet only acknowledge one side.

The Resolution states that the SGA "deplores the implication of [Justice Scalia's] statements" in the aforementioned Oral Arguments. The Resolution does not quote Justice Scalia (nor does it respectfully use his proper title), so I will:

"There are [] those who contend that it does not benefit African Americans to [] get them into the University of Texas where they do not do well, as opposed to having them go to a less advanced school, a less a slower-track school where they do well And - and I [] don't think it [] stands to reason that it's a good thing for the University of Texas to admit as many blacks as pos-

sible." Quite crudely, Justice Scalia was discussing mismatch theory, an idea developed by UCLA Professor Richard Sander. Sander and others have found that if colleges and universities give large preferences to some students that are not based on academic merit, those students are less likely to succeed than

their more academically qualified peers. The data show that students perform best at academic institutions where they are not significantly outmatched

in terms of academic preparation, as measured by a combination of grades and test scores. It is worth noting that mismatch theory is not inherently about race—it also applies to athletes, legacies and other groups who are admitted on more than academic merit. A number of social scientists have attempted to refute Sander's work, but none have

been able to do so with enough rigor to be published in a peer-reviewed journal. Not only is mismatch theory in line with common sense, but it stands as good social science.

Instead of rejecting mismatch theory out-of-hand, the SGA could have started a real discussion about the merits of affirmative action. Indeed, affirmative action does not depend on mismatch theory being wrong; we could judge it to be right even if some mismatch does occur. In fact, Sander supports affirmative action, but calls for us to be mindful that when taken too far, it can backfire on the very students it is meant to help.

Justice Scalia, who passed away on Saturday morning, was a lover of the law and of the constitution. In his eyes, affirmative action was unconstitutional as well as unwise, but other Justices have argued otherwise. We ought to follow the example of our Supreme Court Justices and have a serious discussion about race and affirmative action, a serious discussion in which our governing body does not throw their support to one side only and end the conversation before it starts.

"Instead of rejecting mismatch theory out-of-hand, the SGA could have started a real discussion about the merits of affirmative action."

CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

College Cats Abroad by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily

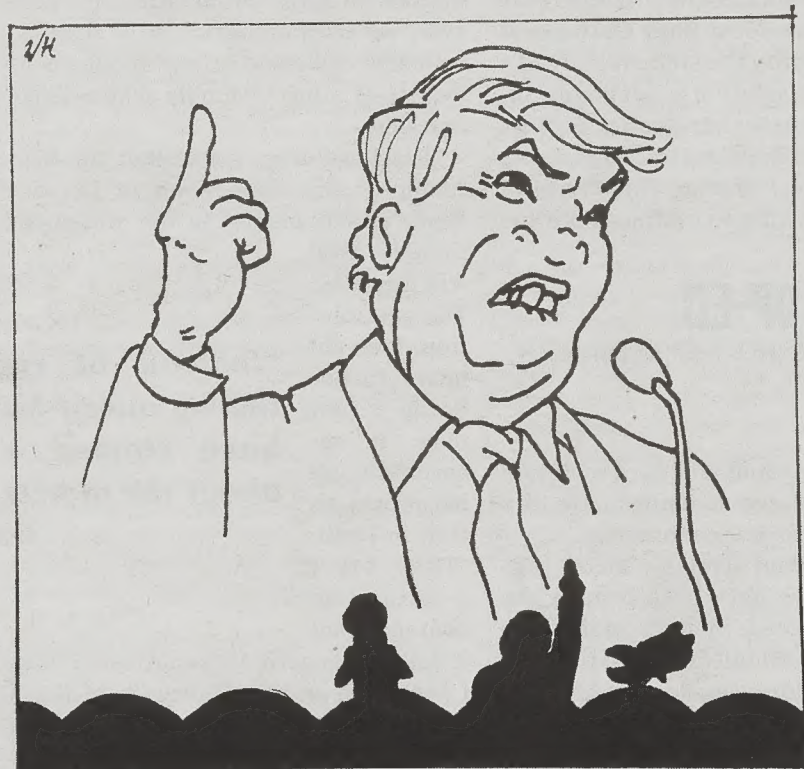


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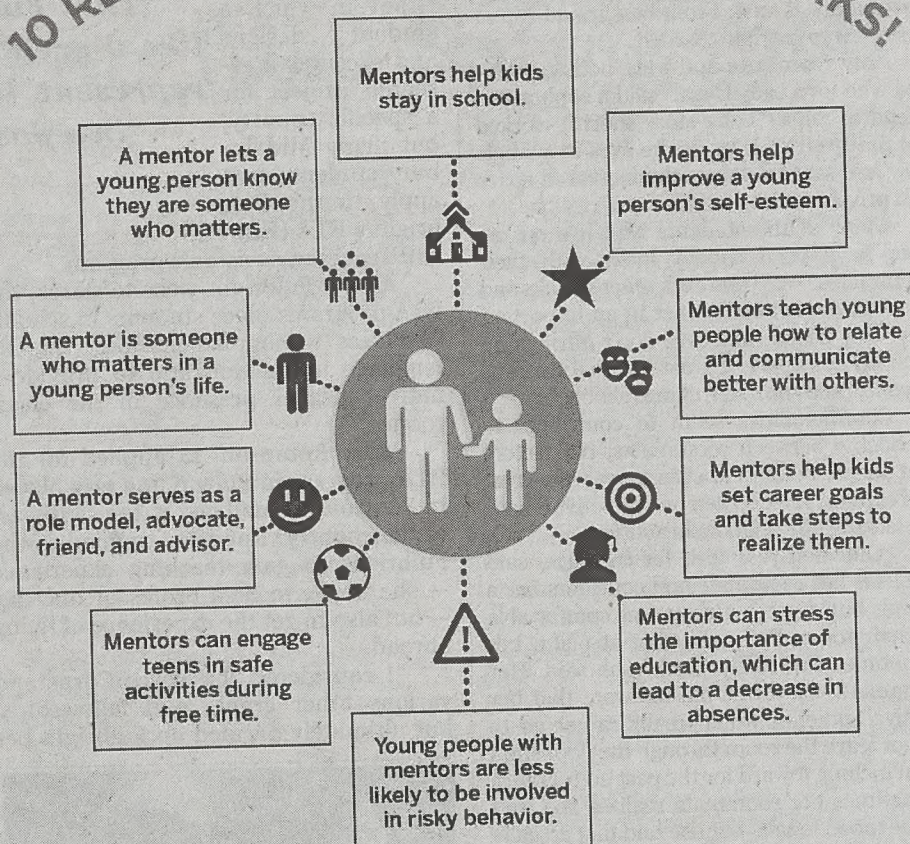
THE Campus Voice

from The Middlebury Campus

hosted by nathaniel wiener
sundays 8pm - 9pm
live on **WRMC**

streaming online at wrmc.middlebury.edu

10 REASONS WHY MENTORING WORKS!



January was **National Mentoring Month**, and we at Community Engagement wanted to say:
Thank you to all of our Middlebury College mentors!

Your hard work makes our communities stronger!

Be a mentor! Get involved!
Contact Nestor Martinez at nmartinez@middlebury.edu or at 802-443-3010 to get started!
Check out mentoring programs available at go/CE!





Why Can't We Be Friends?

By Alex Forde
Contributing Columnist

What's the weirdest thing about the first year of college? If you answered "having a roommate," then you agree with me, (sorry to the other contenders, such as eating in dining halls, partying on weeknights and being in class only 30 percent as often as you were in high school). Sure, some first years live in singles, but they're the exception that proves the rule: Only in college is having your own room suddenly unusual.

Many of my classmates have always had their own room at home, while others still share a bedroom with a sibling or two. I shared with my older brother until late elementary school, when we went our separate ways. Each night, when the lights went out, we would discuss our Neopets (characters in an online game) and wage imaginary battles ("I use a fire spell!" "But my ice wall counters that!" "Nuh uh!") between our bunk beds. I have yet to hear of a pair of college roommates that interact like that.

My roommate and I are, in many ways, polar opposites. I'm the sensitive type, ready to open up my heart at a moment's notice. He'd usually rather open up a beer, and has the same number of emotions in a week that I might have in an hour. But when a J. Cole song comes on or we pass out for our afternoon naps, you might swear we're the same person.

I always have a quick blurb about my roommate holstered in the back of my mind, because "How's your roommate?" is by far the most common question I get from friends and relatives back home. The freshman year roommate is a cultural icon, and I can see why. Your relationship with your roommate has more power to define your experience than almost anything else, and the range of possibilities is vast: From best friendship at first sight to outright disaster.

"My roommate and I are both gay latinos who love Lady Gaga," said a sophomore friend of mine. "Long story short it worked out pretty well." Even so, he lives in a single now and says he values the increased space and privacy.

Many of the students who live on my floor have been equally lucky with their roommates. "We have each other's backs and we both respect each other in an important way," my friend said. "We don't infringe on each other's space. I trust him as much as anyone, [and] he's so f*cking reliable."

Commonalities seem to contribute to friendship between roommates, but factors that people pointed to even more were trust and comfort level. When one or both of those are lacking, the relationship suffers.

One first-year girl, for instance, said she likes her roommate and considers her a friend, but doesn't always feel comfortable in their room. "We talk a lot at night, but sometimes I'm really tired," she said. Her roommate will drone on, unaware that her captive audience would really rather go to bed or leave the room through the door she's been inching toward for the past 20 minutes. Sometimes her roommate realizes she isn't in the mood to talk, but she said that actually leads to more discomfort and hurt feelings.

When trust and comfort are absent entirely, communication becomes hard, too. And that's when you get outright disaster. One of my friends did not see eye to eye with his roommate about using illegal substances in their room, and they no longer live together. "[We] just did not communicate enough about what we each wanted from the room," he told me in a message. "His mood would always be off when I would be around ... and he just wasn't really open to talking about it."

As I write this, my roommate just sexiled me. Maybe I deserve the revenge for snoozing my alarm clock multiple times each morning. College, man...

Fulbright Recipients Share Stories and Research from Abroad

By Joana Salievska
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Feb. 18th, recent graduate Forest Jarvis '15 will discuss his research in environmental policy and natural disasters as a Fulbright scholar in the Philippines. Jarvis is one of the growing number of graduates to apply for a fellowship with the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, which funds college graduates and young professionals to study abroad for one year.

Jarvis, who is presenting his research at 12:30 p.m. in the Robert A. Jones '59 Conference Room, developed an interest in environmental policy while at the College. During his junior year, Jarvis received the Mellon Research Grant and traveled to Bolivia to research environmental policy, where his interests deepened.

"By the time I got to senior year, I realized that I wanted to go into development economics, especially relating to disaster risk management," Jarvis said.

Jarvis decided to apply for a Fulbright in the Philippines to continue his research after graduating from the College.

"I chose to go to the Philippines because it's a country I've always wanted to visit, and more importantly because it's unfortunately a really good place to go if you want natural disasters," he said.

Jarvis is currently working on a project that is searching for the connection between land tenure and vulnerability to natural disasters.

"I'm carrying out surveys in Sorsogon, one of the poorest provinces in the Philippines, to create a household-level disaster vulnerability index, and then compare vulnerability with land tenure and livelihoods."

Jarvis himself is susceptible to the natural disasters he is researching.

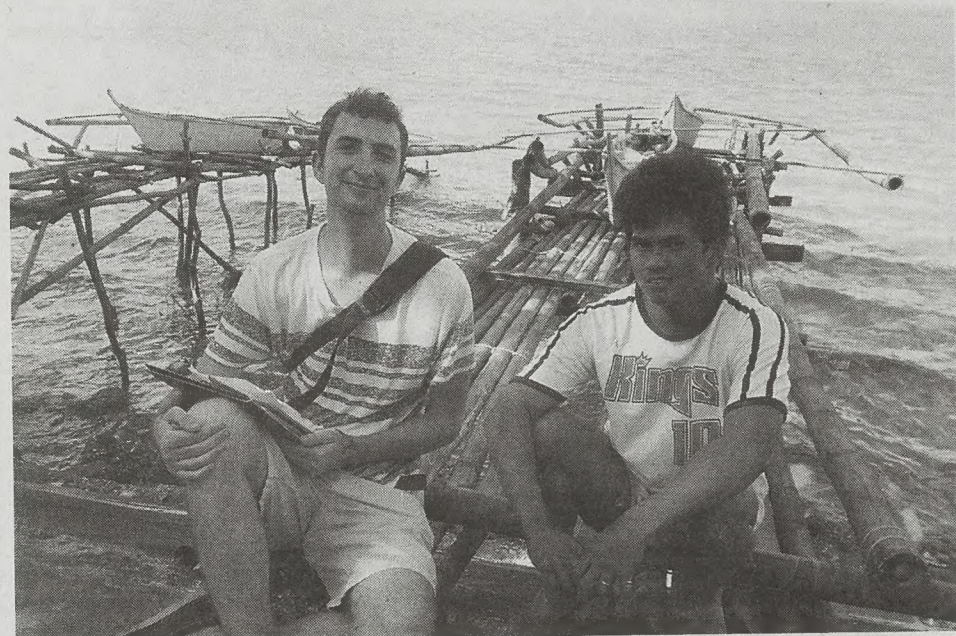
"I also managed to get caught in the middle of a huge typhoon, Typhoon Nona, so my research is looking at preparation and recovery from disasters as they happen."

Jarvis applied for the Fulbright Study/Research Grant in which a student designs and executes a research project for a specific country, but many Middlebury students also apply to the Fulbright's ETA (English Teaching Assistant) program.

As the Fulbright website states, the ETA programs place students in schools "overseas to supplement local English language instruction and to provide a native speaker presence in the classrooms."

Mary Robinson '14 applied for the ETA program in Poland and was placed in Rzeszów, a small city in the southeast of the country. Robinson applied to the Fulbright to gain teaching experience — she hopes to be a professor one day — but also to get the experience of living abroad.

"I considered the Peace Corps and various other grants and fellowships, but ultimately decided on Fulbright be-



FOREST JARVIS

Forest Jarvis '15 conducts an interview in the Philippines for his Fulbright research.

cause I would get experience teaching and would get to choose which country to apply to."

Lisa Gates, Associate Dean for Fellowships and Research, says that she has seen the Fulbright become a more popular option for Middlebury graduates.

"I have seen a significant increase in applicant numbers. I have also seen a slight increase in number of ETA applications, so that we are closer to 50/50 in application types," Gates said.

According to the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State, the Fulbright program awards approximately 2,000 grants for U.S. undergraduates each year. In the 2014-2015 academic year, Fulbright awarded 12 Middlebury students with grants from the 42 applicants. The grantees receive funding from the U.S. State Department to cover travel costs, room and board and incidental costs. In some countries, grants can be used to fund research or language study. The program is immersive and supportive.

Since its founding in 1946, approximately 310,000 "Fulbrighters" have participated in the program. Each student is drawn to the Fulbright for different reasons.

Joseph Flaherty '15 applied to Fulbright's ETA program so he could deepen his understanding of Turkey's culture and history after having studied abroad in Istanbul during the spring of his junior year.

"The Fulbright seemed like a great opportunity to represent the U.S. abroad in a positive way and also to learn more about Turkey and to deepen my interest in the country and the history."

Flaherty is currently working in Sakarya University, where he has been since late September. He teaches English to university students while simultaneously working on side projects.

"Fulbright encourages students to

engage in their communities. So, I have been working on research for my articles."

Flaherty is interested in journalism and is researching the affects 1999 Earthquake in Sakarya as well as the Ruins of Ani, a medieval Armenian city in the Kars Province. He is hoping to have his articles published while he continues his 10-month journey in Turkey.

Zeke Caceres '15, also an ETA grantee, spends his time when he is not teaching, volunteering for an NGO in Agadir, Morocco. Caceres works on the NGO's social media campaign. Caceres was a language enthusiast in high school and at the College and decided to apply to the Fulbright to not only continue practicing his Arabic, but also develop a greater understanding of the complexities of the Middle East.

"I believe in cross-cultural exchange and sharing the diversity of the U.S.," Caceres said. "I have learned a lot about the U.S.'s diplomatic relations with Morocco during my time here and about the Middle East in general."

Although each student is completing different projects in different parts of the world, they have all reported feeling welcome in their respective countries and a sense of accomplishment that the work they are doing is meaningful.

Steven Dunmire '13 is currently working as a 6th grade English teacher in the Boston Public School System. He completed his Fulbright in Villa Hermosa, Mexico the year after he graduated from the College and speaks highly of his experience.

"I gained so many life experiences," he said. "I learned Spanish skills, like translating on the fly, and how to rely on myself emotionally and psychologically. I felt so accomplished when I created a functional and viable lesson for my students."

Dunmire, like most of the College's Fulbright grantees, loved their Fulbright experience.

"I loved Mexico. I never felt unsafe. It is a beautiful country with an amazing history and I am so happy I got to spend a year of my life living there," he said.

By Wellness Leaders
Contributing Columnists

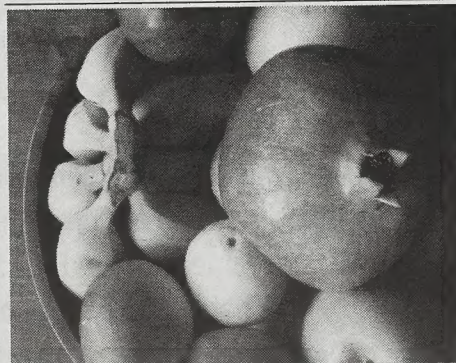
The Power of Mindful Breathing

When you are feeling overwhelmed or anxious, remember the power of breathing. If you practice mindful breathing exercises, you will quickly begin to notice calming effects which can help with stress reduction. Sometimes these breathing exercises can be as simple as counting. Inhale for four counts and then exhale for four counts through your nose. Pay special attention to any places of tension in your body as you breathe. Once you have taken note of

the tension, imagine releasing the tension through your breath. Do this until you feel your heart rate slow and your mind refocus.

Mental Health News:

On Thursday Feb. 18, Drew Jacobs '18 will teach a yoga class in the Axinn Abernathy Room from 5:30-6:45 p.m. Also, Brainerd-sponsored yoga with Chelsea Colby d'17.5 will be in McCullough-Crest Room from 8-9 p.m.



Wellness Tip of the Week

Students Develop Ride Share Website Carpanion

By Will McDonald
Contributing Writer

For most students, group projects are a source of dread, when unfairly divided workloads and conflicting schedules among group members contribute to a less-than-enjoyable college experience.

This was not the case for nine students in Professor Christopher Andrews's fall section of Software Development, an advanced course in the computer science department that is targeted towards upperclassmen.

Those students, Rob Bracken '15.5, Joey Button '17, Andrew Hwang '15.5, David Cromwell '16, Max White '16, Hanna Nowicki '16, Marisa Dreher '16, Mohamed Houtti '16 and Jack Desmarais '16, not only enjoyed a successful working relationship throughout the semester, but kept working together throughout J-Term in order to finish what they started. Their final product, website Carpanion.org, seeks to fill what Bracken described as an opening the group saw on campus.

"What we set out to do was to solve the need for a ride that so many Middlebury students experience every weekend," Bracken said.

The group estimated that there are around 15-20 trips undertaken by Middlebury students to popular destinations like Burlington, Boston or New York City on any given weekend, with a huge surge coming at the beginning and end of semester breaks. With the common knowledge that many of those rides often have empty seats, however, Bracken and his classmates decided to create a network that could better coordinate the supply of rides with the demand.

"Right now, if you want to go somewhere off campus, you have two choices: beg a friend, or pay a ton," Bracken said. "There's no marketplace for getting off campus."

Carpanion allows drivers planning an off-campus trip to post their ride online, where potential fellow trip-goers can then view what is available on a given weekend. Riders can then bid on the ride, with the driver ultimately having the final say in accepting bids and who he or she takes for the weekend. All participants will need to have

a middlebury.edu email address in order to register.

While the app is currently driver-centric, the next step Bracken and the group intend to take is to allow a rider to post a desired ride in order to attract any drivers thinking of making a

trip but who may be hesitant over variables such as the cost of gas. Bracken and the group see the app as both a functional way to solve an existing problem, and as providing other benefits.

"There are a few places people do this already, but everyone in the group felt that the other services were inadequate and incomplete," Button said. "The cumulative goal was to create a site for members of the Middlebury community to find cheap solutions for rides off-campus, and maybe meet someone awesome in the process."

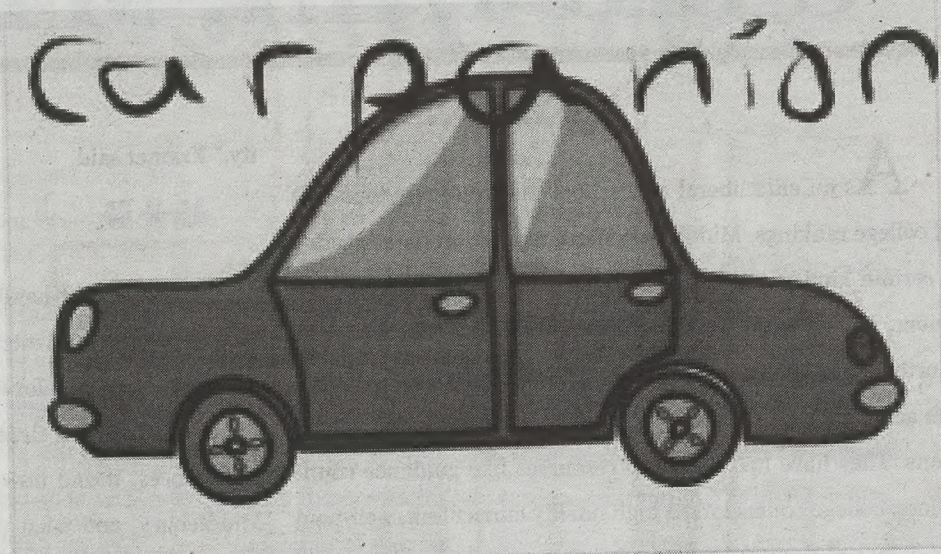
"We're trying to make it easier to see what's out there, rather than just

"We're trying to make it easier to see what's out there, rather than just having to post in a Facebook group and hope someone responds."

ROB BRACKEN '15.5

week, and started each meeting with the members detailing what they each had accomplished since they had last met.

This system of group accountability was ultimately quite successful with



CARPANION.ORG

Students of Professor Christopher Andrews's fall computer science course developed a ride-share app called Carpanion.org, featuring this logo on their new website.

having to post in a Facebook group and hope someone responds," Bracken added. Bracken stressed that the rides will also provide a social aspect, as there's "no better way to get to know someone than on a long car ride."

Although Carpanion originally started as a class project last fall, the group found themselves unprepared to launch the app at the class's conclusion in December. They also found

themselves unwilling to simply write the app off as a project of a now-past class and forget about it. Thus, they took advantage of a lax J-Term schedule to buckle down and finish the website.

The group met three times each

the group putting the last touches on the site and launching it in the final week of the term. Now, as the group advertises the app they have created, they are waiting to see how the student body will react.

"If people see this as we do, as a real need within the student body, then it could easily take off," Bracken said.

Should the app find success, Bracken and the group face a difficult path forward, with Bracken and another group member graduating with the class of 2015.5 and leaving campus. Right now, the plan for the group is to see how the app fares now that it is open for Middlebury students to use and judge.

Regardless of whether Middlebury students take up the app, Bracken emphasized that the whole experience has been an entirely worthwhile one.

"What is great about it is that we built it all the way through. All the front-end and back-end stuff, the coding, all of us contributed," Bracken said. "It's very satisfying to see the finished product."

Good Ole Campus: Highlights from Spring 1960

By Laura Dillon
Contributing Writer

While searching for a Good Ol' Campus article, I stumbled upon the March 31, 1960 issue. Rather than choosing one article from a paper so packed with intrigu-

ing pieces, I decided to share multiple highlights. From an article describing the spring dance that featured Louis Armstrong and His All Star Band to a report on the student protests outside of segregated stores, the journalists of yesteryear provide a glimpse into a different time on

our college grounds.

Events: "Spring Fever Selected As Theme of Junior Weekend"

"Spring Fever" will be the theme of Junior Weekend 1960...The annual weekend is scheduled for April 22-23...will begin at 5:15 p.m. Admission is \$1. The proceeds will go toward the Library Fund.

Louis Armstrong and His All Stars will be featured at a jazz concert on Friday, April 22, beginning at 8 p.m. in the Field House, the cost is \$3 per person.

To raise funds for Junior Weekend, the junior women are washing sweaters for 50 cents apiece. Junior men are siding in collecting and delivering the sweaters.

News on Campus: "Vermont College Students Picket College in Segregation Protest"

College groups from Goddard, Michael's and the University of Vermont took up the cause last Saturday by picketing a branch of the Woolworth chain stores in Burlington, while another group of Vermont students and a group from Cornell did likewise in Barre.

Similar demonstrations have been organized by students at Skidmore, Hamilton, Yale University, Divinity School, Vassar, Smith and Bennington. They are protesting the segregation of lunch counters in Southern five and ten stores and the expulsion...of students who have participated in the past resistance sit-in campaign which aims to end discrimination.

Student Affairs: "Traditional Break To Be Abolished"

The ten o'clock 'coffee break' long a Middlebury tradition will be abolished. This announcement was made this week by President Samuel S. Stratton.

Stratton cited more effective utilization of faculty time and school facilities as the main reason for the change. "No other school that I know of has a scheduled coffee break in the middle of the morning," he said.

The announcement of the recess' demise brought reminiscences from John Bowker, dean of faculty, who recalled a time when chapel services were a large event in the college day. "In years before the college established the Daily News Notices announcements for the day were read after the service. It was the only way to disseminate information to the entire school."

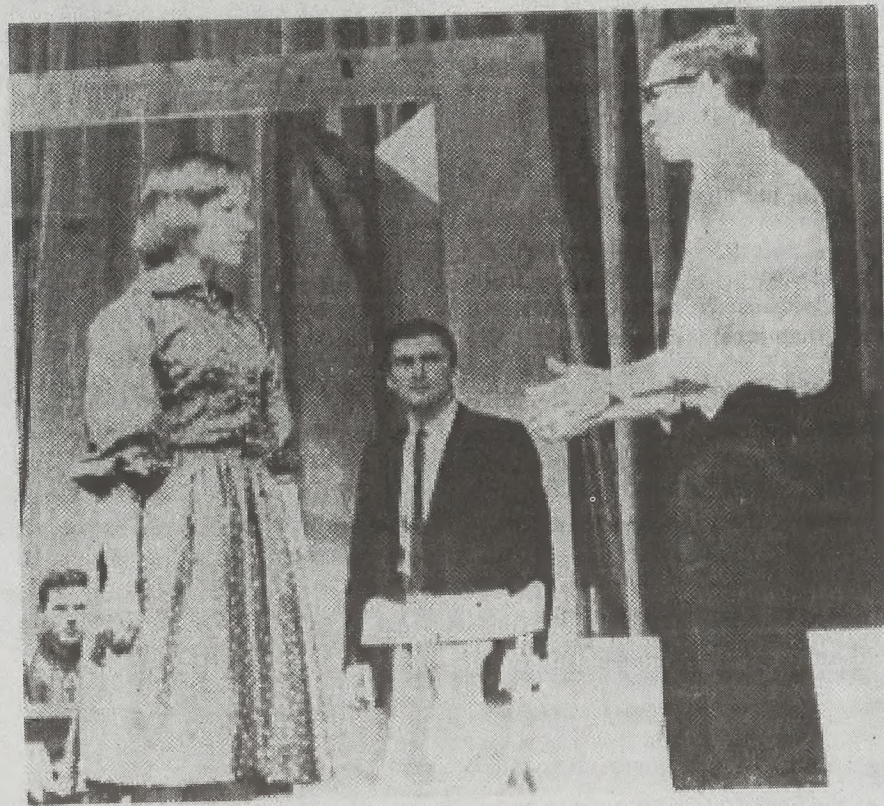
Sports: "Rifle Squad Now Varsity Sport Here"

The Middlebury Athletic Council, under the direction of Associate Professor Perkins, recognized riflery as an official sport at Middlebury and authorized the presentation of varsity letters to deserving members of the squad. According to Athletic Director Duke Nelson, the entire program will be run by the faculty of the ROTC Department.

"They will supply guns, ammunition, and coaching, and will set up a competitive schedule with neighboring schools. They are greatly pleased by this decision, and I am sure that they will make the sport a great success," said Duke.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1960

THE CAM



PRACTICE: Karel Dyes and Donald Korn rehearse their parts in "The Apollo of Bellac" under the watchful eye of Paul Boyd as

O CAPTAIN, MY CAPTAIN: ABOUT THE

As an elite liberal arts school that routinely tops lists of college rankings, Middlebury has a reputation for attracting a certain kind of student: predominantly white, relatively affluent, hailing from boarding and preparatory schools in the Northeast. Most of these students have been successful all their life academically, and have received very well-rounded educations. They have had access to resources like guidance counselors, college counselors, a high quality curriculum, well-paid teachers and beautiful campus facilities.

Historically, preparatory and boarding schools were, by design, intended to prepare their students to attend prestigious schools. Phillips Exeter Academy, for example, was considered more or less a pipeline for Harvard. Films like *The Dead Poets Society* dramatize the pressure these boarding school students feel to attend elite higher-education institutions, and the almost mythic nature of doing so.

This is the stereotype, at least. And *The Campus* set out to explore it: does it really exist? Does the stereotype work both ways — that is, does it create a culture here, a sort of self-fulfilling prophecy? The thoughts of students, professors and administrators help to tell the story.

This semester, Professor of English and American Literatures Kathryn Kramer is teaching a course called “Boarding School: Fiction & Fact.” With the exploration of the boarding school experience forming the heart of the class, the course considers novels, memoirs and films, from Roald Dahl’s *Boy* to Anita Shreve’s *Testimony*.

Kramer noted that these works often feature humorous accounts of boarding school life wherein it is not uncommon to see characters forming tight, familial bonds with their peers and responding to everyday experiences “with a kind of irony” and admirable sense of adventure. Nonetheless, Kramer also said that the unfazed quality these characters project is, in reality, not always so effortless.

A particular example that crossed Kramer’s mind is S.R. Khan’s ethnography *Privilege*, which provides a rare glimpse into student life at the St. Paul’s School in New Hampshire. An institution that is highly steeped in tradition, St. Paul’s offers all students the chance to participate in a weekly formal dinner.

While the idea of a formal dinner seems simple and harmless on the surface, emotions can run deep.

“The weekly dinner teaches the students about manners, but it also teaches them to never look uncomfortable in a situation no matter how uncomfortable it is,” Kramer said.

Just as students strive to maintain a stoic air of “coolness under fire” in front of their peers, Kramer said that the boarding school can also become a contradictory — and confusing — institution that, on the surface, promotes student growth, but simultaneously binds them to seemingly unbreakable tradition.

“There is a paradoxical sense of real tradition and things having always been that way, but also a sense of open possibil-

ity,” Kramer said.

To hear first-hand accounts of these places, we interviewed several students who went to boarding schools. They are all students of color who now attend Middlebury. We asked the students about their academic, social, athletic and other experiences, if and how their experiences prepared them for Middlebury, and what their perceptions are of the boarding school stigma.

Sunho Park ’18 — Deerfield Academy in Deerfield, Mass.

“I haven’t thought too much about it, but I guess going to Deerfield was somewhat of a middle ground between college prep and interest in learning. Students generally took five classes every year. Teachers were always willing to help us out, whether we were struggling or doing just fine. We had sit-down meals on certain nights of the week, and I would often see students staying behind with a faculty member and going over some class material. And, faculty apartments were often visited by students during study hall hours.

“Living with my friends on campus, I found all of the school year to be a lot of fun. There were so many ways to befriend everyone on campus, through class, dorm life, sports teams, community service, meals and so on. People often tend to stereotype the kind of students that attend boarding school, and yes, there are many students that fit that stereotype, but there are also many other students that come from different backgrounds who have their own stories to tell. It was great meeting these people, and becoming best friends with some of them.

“During my sophomore year, nine other students and I wanted to help out with the kitchen staff during meals, so we formed a group called ‘Dish Crew.’ Some of us were close friends from the start, but others only knew of each other vaguely. Many of us had different friend groups during our time at Deerfield and came from different backgrounds, but Dish Crew gave us a place to come together as classmates. I share this story because cliques do naturally form on campus according to similar backgrounds sometimes, but there are also many times where everyone just comes together.”

Qadira Al-Mahi ’19 — Peddie School in Hightstown, NJ

“Peddie was pretty challenging academically, and the school induced much more anxiety than it cared to admit for the students. Peddie did prepare me well for college academics, though. Socially, it is a different environment for everyone. I personally did not have a good social experience at Peddie because of who I was, how everyone perceived me based on their preconceived notions of black women and where I come from, as well as the pervasive Eurocentric beauty standards. I obviously had friends, but all of my closest friends were students of

Interviews by Ethan Brady and Renee Chang
Design by Emma Hatheway

T THE BOARDING SCHOOL STIGMA

color. We all ended up gravitating toward one another because no one else would accept us into their groups. This led us to form our own friend group.

“Despite the intense pressure to be outstanding academically and the stress that that induced, I will always look upon my boarding school experience positively because of the friends I had to get me through it. The people who made up the administration and the institution I do not look upon as fondly because many were ignorant, blatantly or subtly racist, some sexist and unwilling to make Peddie a more inclusive place for students of color when we, particularly the women of color, asked to work with them to make a more inclusive space. Even though that is not something I consider a positive, this aspect also prepared me for the lack of effort for inclusivity I knew I would face at an institution like Middlebury from both students and administration.

“My perception of boarding school versus public high school is that there is a bit more pretension among boarding school students than at public, and a bit more of a sense of entitlement to the education. I think we earn that in our own right by being there, which is fine, but when I think of public high school, I feel like people have less motivation to like school or figure out what they want. My perception is that they do not have as many resources or sometimes the same quality of resources — because the curriculums steer them to becoming worker bees instead of finding a passion, and more often than not the teachers themselves don’t even want to be at school, much less teach. That discourages people from wanting to be there even more.”

Addis Fouche-Channer ’17 — Westover School in Middlebury, CT

“My Westover experience was definitely academically challenging. My middle school is a feeder for a lot of boarding schools, so I felt really prepared to do the schoolwork once I got there, but there were definitely times where I felt overwhelmed. I think because it was a relatively competitive environment everyone wanted to get into an impressive, name-brand college and that definitely fueled a lot of the students’ desire to do well.

“Westover was an all-girls school, so socially it was interesting. Everyone was really focused on being themselves, discovering who they were and having fun. Obviously, it wasn’t a utopia; there were definitely people who didn’t get along but it was generally great. My friend group of six girls still talk almost everyday, and I feel like I’ll be friends with those girls for a really long time.

“Comparing Middlebury to Westover is a little tough because of the addition of boys. I definitely noticed myself becoming more conscious of how I looked and what I wore after coming to college, and there is definitely more pressure to be perfect here. But I felt academically prepared to come here, and also I had been living on my own since I was 13 so that wasn’t too difficult.

“Honestly, many of the students here from public schools have the same ability to do well here as the ones from boarding schools because of general wealth inequality.”

One student at Middlebury, Jessica Gutierrez ’17, went through the very experience Fouche-Channer described. After attending a charter high school in Chicago, Gutierrez was nominated for a scholarship to attend the College via the Posse Foundation, a non-profit organization that seeks to identify highly motivated student leaders at urban public high schools. The result of this rigorous selection process is a diverse group — or “Posse” — of scholars who are eager and ready to bring new dimensions to social and academic life at whichever institution they ultimately matriculate at.

Nonetheless, Gutierrez said that while the program does bring an incredible amount of diversity to campus, many students at Middlebury often remain shortsighted in their understanding of what constitutes a diverse campus.

“I think Posse is often stereotyped by students as being a program that upholds ‘diversity’ as its sole purpose and hence attracts only a certain type of student. There is an overarching sentiment on campus that the large majority of Posse scholars are of a certain ethnicity and come from same socioeconomic class.”

Interestingly, Gutierrez’s remarks push us to a more nuanced — and important — discussion of campus diversity across both boarding schools and colleges: she noted that the very conception many students hold of ‘diversity’ is stereotypical and restricted to a certain kind of individual.

“In my experience, the Posse program is stigmatized as bringing diversity to the campus, but the diversity within each Posse is not recognized. I have met Posse students who come from so many different academic, socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds.”

While the consensus seemed to suggest that there is nothing inherently wrong with seeking a quality private education for high school, the boarding school experience still has a stigma, whether deserved or not, associated with it — as a place of entrenched privilege by which the families who least need class ascendancy benefit the most. But most — if not all — of the country’s most sought-after boarding schools, following in the footsteps of elite colleges and universities, are taking deliberate actions to increase campus diversity through programs such as the Posse Foundation, affirmative action and class-conscious admissions practices. Ultimately, as Kramer noted in her interview, it remains up to us to observe whether boarding schools are actively bringing progressive “change to the culture” of secondary and higher education, or whether the students are becoming “honorary members” of age-old institutions that keep privilege in the hands that hold it.

The Campus hopes to run more stories in the future evaluating and deconstructing the boarding school stigma at Middlebury. To add your voice to the conversation, please email campus@middlebury.edu.

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Chicago Shows Despicable Power of Press

By Finne Murphy
Contributing Writer

Murder, fame and the unsettling relationship between the two were the subjects of this year's J-term musical, *Chicago*, which sold out for every show. The classic American work, with music by John Kander and lyrics by Fred Ebb, ran from Jan. 28 to Feb. 1 at the Town Hall Theater (THT) in Middlebury. Premiering three weeks after rehearsals began, the production was directed by THT Executive Director Doug Anderson with musical direction by Middlebury Affiliate Artist Carol Christensen and band direction by Bear Irwin.

Chicago tells the alluring and despicable tale of two murderesses caught up in the glamor and clamor of the 1920's vaudeville entertainment age. Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly, portrayed by Erin Craig '19 and Liana Barron '18 respectively, are jailed for murdering their lovers – but this does not last long. With the help of their charming and clever lawyer, Billy Flynn, played by Kahari Blue '19, the two manipulate the power of the press in order to reshape their story into a “not guilty” verdict – all while gaining fame and publicity.

Perhaps more appalling than the plot is the fact that it is based on true events. In 1924, Beulah Annan and Belva Gaertner killed their lovers in cold blood. The press pounced on the stories and fascinated the public for months, chiefly because the perpetrators of such heinous crimes were women. Much like in the musical, the *Chicago* newspapers twisted, ignored and fabricated the truth almost as much as the women did themselves until they were transformed from murderesses into acquitted victims. The story was so compelling that it was eventually turned into a play, a book, a musical and a 2002 film.

Chicago is a story whose significance continues to be relevant to this day. As Doug Anderson, who acted as director, producer and set designer as well as being the Executive Director of the THT, stated in the program, “Today there seems to be no lack of people who ignore facts while rewriting history, cooking up narratives that play on sentimentality and deep-seated prejudice in a grab for power and profit.”

Even with the stomach-churning backstory, the show is difficult to not enjoy. The glowing red CHICAGO sign shone down on no fewer than fifteen fast-paced music and

dance numbers featuring murderesses, matrons, judges, juries, executioners, reporters, husbands and a “sob-sister” who was not all she appeared to be. Perhaps it is because of this mixture of a thought-provoking plot and fantastic music that *Chicago* has become America's longest-running musical. The J-term version, in all its glitz, glamor and “razzle dazzle,” continued this tradition of pure entertainment and tart wit.

For the eleventh year, the J-term musical brought together the College's Department of Theatre and the local performing arts center. Production called for collaboration between the College, community members, students and faculty in order

to achieve such a monumental effort in such little time.

“We know we have a little less than three weeks in January to get all the blocking, choreography and rehearsals with the

pit band done, which is why we start vocal rehearsals in the fall,” Christensen, musical director and creator of the annual winter term musical, explained. “The cast is expected to have all the music memorized by the first day of class in January so they can rehearse the blocking and choreography ‘off book.’ In many ways it mirrors what it is like to put on a production in the professional world, where one is expected to know his or her part going in, and put the show together in just a few weeks.”

Alicia Evancho '12 acted as choreographer of the J-term musical for the third time, having previously worked on *Hairspray* in 2012 and *Ragtime* in 2015. She was joined in her choreography efforts by two cast members, Connor Pisano '18, who also portrayed Amos Hart, and Caitlin Duffy '15, who played Liz in the Cook County Jail. Pisano and Duffy each choreographed a few scenes, which Duffy described as “a learning experience.”

Duffy reflected on her role in the production during her final semester at Middlebury.

“I hope to continue acting after I graduate, but I don't plan on doing many musicals, so getting to do the J-term musical has been a gift,” she said. “It's also been a great

opportunity to be involved in town a little bit more. I will miss it.”

Apart from the six-hour-a-day rehearsals during the week, cast members were expected to practice and collaborate outside of class in order to accomplish the feat of memorizing every line, step and note.

“It's fast-paced and intense,” ensemble member Paige Guarino '18.5 said. “But there's a great sense of camaraderie and of coming together to make something great. The collaborative spirit of the J-term musical is just phenomenal.”

The musical and the real-life events that inspired it illuminate both the power of the press and the weaknesses of our legal system. *Chicago* also offers a stark commentary on the hunger and gullibility of the American public. Our eagerness for more violence, more scandal, more hangings and more stories is as apparent as it will ever be in this musical. We must ask ourselves, then, who is guilty of the graver crime: Velma and Roxie for their lovers' murders, or the people who follow their stories with a blind passion for violence and sin.

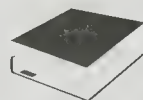
As Mama Morton, played by Victoria Isquith '19, says, “In this town, murder is a form of entertainment.”



MAX KRAUS

Put together in a mere three weeks, *Chicago* featured fifteen fast-paced numbers in telling the tale of two acquitted murderesses.

BOOKING IT



By Abigail Walton
Contributing Columnist

Dark and twisted in its portrayal of a feud between Black and White witches, *Half Bad* by Sally Green has been sold in 42 countries, and the film rights were snatched up almost instantly by Fox Entertainment Group after its publication. Set in modern day England, this fantasy world features “good” White witches and “evil” Black witches, but we soon learn that everything is not so, well, black and white. The fight between good and evil is never simple in this novel, and protagon-

ist Nathan finds himself caught in the middle, as he is the son of Marcus, one of the most notorious Black witches of the age. (For instance, Marcus goes one step further than Voldemort, as he eats his victims once he has defeated them.)

HALF BAD

cide years ago.

Green keenly explores the idea of nature versus nurture by depicting Nathan's life as one dogged by prejudice. The boy is constantly pushed away from the White side of himself, as the members of the White Witch Council give him

Nathan's mother, a widely adored white witch, committed sui-

every reason to resent them. They restrict his movements, follow his every step and tattoo him with the number 0.5 so that his outsider status is clear to all.

Half Bad focuses on the theme of not belonging and of having nowhere to which to escape. In this world, the White Witch Council can kill a Black witch on sight, and Nathan is suspected of being one. The audience watches as he is nearly pushed into the “evil” side of himself. There is plenty of gore in the novel, but there is also ten-

derness, as in Nathan's romance with Analise and his relationship with his brother, Aaron.

Half Bad does not always feel original, but the tension-filled story will have you constantly turning pages until its suspenseful end. The first in a trilogy, the book can be swallowed quickly in a few dizzying, pleasurable gulps and will leave you aching

for more. But for those who hate cliffhangers, be warned, as the final installment of the series will not be released until March of 2016.

Green keenly explores the idea of nature versus nurture by depicting Nathan's life as one dogged by prejudice.

DON'T MISS THIS

First Folio Festival

Join us for Renaissance music, gallery talks and a live theatre performance celebrating the exhibition *First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare*. Performances by *Straight Up Shakespeare*. Renaissance refreshments, children's activities and Shakespeare selfies. Free.

2/18, 4:30 P.M., MCA LOBBY AND MUSEUM OF ART

Bria Skonberg Quintet

Trumpeter, vocalist and composer Bria Skonberg is a star on the rise, “poised to be one of the most versatile and imposing musicians of her generation,” according to the *Wall Street Journal*. Her program is an ode to Louis Armstrong, plus a mix of jazz standards and original works.

2/19, 8 P.M., MCA CONCERT HALL

The Solo Workshop

The Solo Workshop, in collaboration with the UVM Lane Series, presents its fifth evening of new works, continuing an exploration of what “solo” means to both artist and audience. Five UVM artists and five Middlebury College artists join in pairs of choreographer-dancers and composer-musicians.

2/20, 8 PM, MCA DANCE THEATER

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT

By Connor Forrest
Senior Columnist

If you made plans to leave campus this weekend, cancel them. Don't have any? You do now. First, you will witness one of the most captivating trumpet prodigies of our time, Bria Skonberg, on Friday at 8 p.m. in the Mahaney Center for the Arts (MCA). What's that, you don't like Jazz? You will.

The next evening, Saturday at 8 p.m., you will be sitting in Wright Theater, enthralled by Tina Packer's "Women of Will" as she artfully deconstructs Shakespeare's most famous female characters in world-class performances that will make you laugh out loud while also considering the Bard from an entirely fresh perspective. After watching Part One of the show, not even this weather will stop you from going to Part Two on Sunday at 7 p.m.

If Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald were one person, that person would be Bria Skonberg. Seriously, after going to her performance, put on "Dream a Little Dream of Me" — the resemblance is uncanny. The *Wall Street Journal* calls her "one of the most versatile and imposing musicians of her generation." And although Skonberg may not be Louis reincarnate, she is pretty close.

According to *All About Jazz Magazine*, "It's a rare talent that can straddle

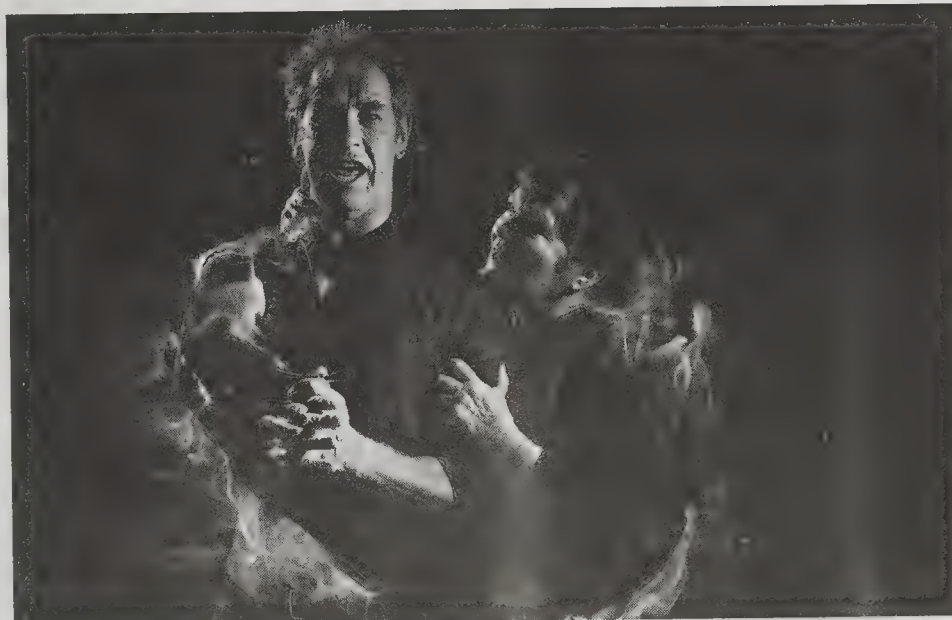
— and dare request membership in — the trumpet artist continuum emanating from Louis Armstrong ... However, with her bravura performance on 'So is the Day,' Bria Skonberg confirms that she is not only indeed a triple threat musician — player, vocalist, and composer — but also that that esteemed lineage, consummate entertainers all, would heartily approve her membership."

But Skonberg is not just a powerful vocalist, musician and songwriter: she is also a consummate entertainer. She is a young, hip woman who wields a trumpet like Thor wields a hammer.

On Friday, Skonberg will lead her quintet in a dynamic program that includes an ode to Satchmo himself as well as mix of jazz standards and her own original works that explore worldly rhythms and modern jazz variance.

Speaking of powerful women, the incredible scholar and actor, Tina Packer, will perform "Women of Will," her masterful summation of over forty years spent investigating all things Shakespeare. Through a combination of riveting scenes and trenchant analysis, Packer draws upon her astonishing wealth of knowledge to explore themes of love, loss, freedom, control, violence and power in the heroines of Shakespeare's texts.

The two consecutive performances, "Force and Heat: The Early Plays" and,



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

"Women of Will" will analyze themes of love, loss and power in Shakespeare's works.

"Chaos and Redemption: The Later Plays" will open at 8 and 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday nights, respectively, in Wright Memorial Theatre. The *New York Times* call this performance by Packer and her costar, Nigel Gore, "Marvelous!" while the *Associated Press* hails it as "Boundless and irresistible!"

Packer is the founding Artistic Director of Shakespeare & Company. She has directed almost every single Shakespeare play, acted in several and taught the whole canon at over 30 colleges in the U.S., including Harvard, MIT, Columbia and NYU.

Packer began her career in England, where she trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Soon after winning their Ronson Award for Most Outstanding Actor, she became an associate artist of the Royal Shakespeare Company and has since risen to become an authority on everything Shakespeare. She has also proven her acting chops on BBC Television, where she played Dora to Ian McKellen's "David Copperfield" and was a love interest for Patrick Troughton's "Doctor Who."

Packer came to the U.S. in 1974 on a

Through a combination of riveting scenes and trenchant analysis, Packer draws upon her astonishing wealth of knowledge to explore themes of love, loss, freedom, control, violence and power in the heroines of Shakespeare's texts.

Ford Foundation-funded project to research the visceral roots of Elizabethan theater. Ford Foundation awarded her two subsequent grants to travel the world, looking at the relationship of mind, body, sacred texts, stand-up comedy, voice and actor-audience relationship in her studies. Based on this work, she founded Shakespeare

& Company in 1978 at Edith Wharton's derelict mansion in Lenox, Massachusetts.

"Women of Will" promises to deliver a deeply thought-provoking but accessible performance that delves into our favorite playwright's feminine side, tracing the developmental arc of his female characters along his own personal journey.

The Bria Skonberg Quintet concert will take place on Friday, Feb. 19,

at 8 p.m. in the MCA. "Women of Will" will open at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20 and 7 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 21 at Wright Theater.

Tickets for either event are only \$6 for students (first-years and Febs, watch your email for a free ticket offer). To find more information or purchase tickets, stop by either of the box offices in McCullough or the MCA or visit go/boxoffice.



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

Trumpeter, vocalist and composer Bria Skonberg will perform on Friday, Feb. 19.

PLAYWRIGHTS ON THEIR PLAYS

By Meghan Dineen
Kaitlyn Kuvalanka
Sam Martin
Abigail Walton
Contributing Columnists

We live in a world today that is growing rapidly more aware of the way it approaches issues of gender and sexuality. Despite some continuing controversies, there is an increasing acceptance of not only discussions of sexuality, but also of diverse sexual orientations. Dialogue about gender, too, has risen from internal conflicts to governmental debates asking, "Should one be allowed to change their gender on a birth certificate?" Growing up in the 21st century and studying at a liberal arts college that strives to be inclusive of all genders and sexualities, we are all immediately engaged in these questions individually and collectively. The College approaches these subjects in a multitude of ways, be it through gender inclusive bathrooms, all-gender housing, the Queer Studies House, academic departments or even research labs.

David Henry Hwang's play *M. Butterfly* heavily explores the ideas of gender and sexuality by documenting the relationship between two men, French ambassador Rene Gallimard and Chinese Spy Song Liling, that goes hidden underneath several layers of heterosexual

fantasy for 20 years. Critics commonly remark that the fantasy stresses the stereotypes of the dominant Western culture over its submissive Eastern counterpart. Hwang's play parallels the tale of Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*, in which a white American man falls for a 15-year-old Japanese woman. The love story ends when she commits suicide upon learning that her lover has betrayed her for another woman in the U.S.

Although audiences everywhere question cultural stereotypes in both Hwang's and Puccini's works, the bigger question remains: How is it possible that Gallimard does not know that Song is a man throughout their affair? Some believe that Gallimard's blindness to Song's gender is created by the fantasy of a modest Asian lover, which Song manipulates through cultural misperceptions, while others dismiss this ignorance entirely by arguing that Gallimard permits Song's manipulation only as self-deception against the reality of his homosexuality. Despite Hwang's confir-

mation that "on some level [Gallimard] knows he is gay ... yet he lived in a homophobic period" in an interview with Don Digaetani in 1989, surprisingly, people still disregard this possibility.

Although many would say that this Song's deception could never happen in reality, *M. Butterfly* is actually based on a true story. In 1986, French diplomat Bernard Boursicot was sentenced to prison for leaking classified information to his lover of twenty years, Shi Pei Pu, a Chinese spy whom he believed to be a woman. In contrast to Hwang's play, where Gallimard commits suicide, Boursicot settled down to live a peaceful life with a man after his time in prison.

Hwang's decision to parallel *Madame Butterfly*'s suicidal ending demonstrates that the reality of being a gay man was too difficult to live with, thus making Song's identity as a woman an easy fantasy in which Gallimard could participate. Because Song portrayed himself as an Asian woman with great shame about her body, Gallimard never sees his lover nude until the last act. Despite the lack of nudity in their relationship, the two men do, how-

Hwang's decision to parallel Madame Butterfly's suicidal ending demonstrates that the reality of being a gay man was too difficult to live with, thus making Song's identity as a woman an easy fantasy in which Gallimard could participate.

ever, reach a level of sexual intimacy that makes it impossible for some audiences to imagine that Gallimard was naive enough to misgender Song.

M. Butterfly first appeared on stage in 1988, after homosexuality was declassified from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) in 1973 and HIV/AIDS was clinically observed in 1981. Controversial dialogue surrounding homosexuality was at its peak then, and continues to come with a fair share of uncomfortable debates today, even though our world has strived to new lengths of acceptance, including the legalization of gay marriage in all 50 states in 2015.

David Henry Hwang intends to revive his boundary-pushing production, *M. Butterfly*, in the near future, allowing the hearts of the new age to conduct their interpretations of this historical love affair in a modern and increasingly accepting world. During a recent Skype conversation with Hwang, the playwright informed us that he believes the cultural stereotypes that drive the deception and conflict in his play are ever alive and influential today. However, he is curious to see the progression of public perception since the first production. Although Gallimard's life has a grievous end, there is hope that the rebirth of his legendary tale will highlight the acceptance of all of our realities in the 21st century.

Students Participate in Porter Internship

By Toby Aicher
Arts & Sciences Editor

The College has a large pre-medical program: this year, more than 50 Middlebury students applied to medical school. One of the College's best opportunities for pre-medical students is the Porter internship. Run by Dr. Hannah Benz, the CCI pre-medical advisor, and Dr. Eric Benz, an orthopedic surgeon at Porter Hospital, the program allows for 15 students to shadow doctors at the hospital during J-term. This year, I was fortunate enough to be one of the participants.

Students are placed with a home preceptor, with whom they spend the majority of the month. Preceptors are doctors from pediatrics, orthopedic surgery, ER, cardiology and family care. Their mentorship is perhaps the most important aspect of the Porter internship. Porter interns gain exposure to a certain area of medicine, as well as receive close guidance and advice about medical careers and the U.S. healthcare system.

Students are also able to participate in electives and shadow doctors in different areas of medicine. Interns can spend a day observing the hospital lab and blood bank, working alongside a nurse in home health, watching surgeries or shadowing radiologists.

I quickly learned that the technical aspects of medical knowledge, such as knowing which tests to run or drugs to prescribe, are only a part of a doctor's job. Medical expertise also relies on a doctor's ability to navigate the healthcare system and understand their patients on a personal level.

For instance, my preceptor had to deal with health insurance companies denying medical coverage to patients, or pharmaceutical companies raising drug prices beyond a patient's financial means. One patient with Wilson's disease, a dangerous but treatable disorder that leads to the insufficient metabolism of copper, had their annual treatment expense raised from \$888 to \$26,000. My preceptor

"I think the idea of the internship is not to convince people to go into medicine. It's to help them figure out what they want to do."

-DR. TIM COPE
FOUNDER OF THE PORTER INTERNSHIP



During J-term, students have the opportunity to participate in the Porter Internship and explore a variety of medical professions.

was forced to find an alternative, albeit less effective, generic drug for this rare disease.

Andrew Holtz '16.5, a Porter intern who shadowed a doctor in the ER, gained valuable insight on some of the difficulties that face ER doctors.

"I was able to learn how the providers in the ER approached difficult conditions such as depression, alcoholism and drug-seeking behavior," Holtz said. "It's easy to become detached from the world around us while at Middlebury, and the internship was successful in showing me the problems that many of our neighbors suffer from."

The goal of the internship is to help students decide whether they want to go into medicine. Dr. Tim Cope, a retired family physician and current teacher at UVM medical school, participated in the pioneering year of the internship pro-

gram in 1976.

"There wasn't any structure at first," he said. "It was me and one student. The program grew over time. It took a while, maybe 10 years. For a while, we had another parallel program in medical anthropology, which was run by David Napier [a former Middlebury professor of anthropology]. Students could go anywhere to witness rural medicine. Some went to Scotland to be in the rural areas of the Highlands."

Dr. Cope and David Napier carried out a study of Vermont physicians to assess their levels of career satisfaction. Results indicated that physicians who had more experience with medicine before becoming a doctor were happiest with their jobs.

"I think the idea of the internship is not to convince people to go into medicine," Cope said. "It's to help them figure out what they want to do. The people I think I have helped the most are the people who thought they wanted to go into medicine, and then said, 'Nope, that's not for me.' You are looking at a commitment of seven years of training and a tremendous amount of money. We don't want someone to get into it and be ter-

ribly unhappy."

It was reassuring to see Porter Hospital behind the scenes and gain a deeper understanding of its inner functions. Often, modern institutionalized medicine can seem impersonal. People lose their identity when they put on an ascetic patient gown and are whisked down the white, antiseptic halls of a hospital. Their blood is drawn and sent off to basement labs for tests, their biopsies carted down to pathologists and their bodies placed under massive machines for images they may never see. But at Porter Hospital, I was able to witness the care and concern put into every step of a patient's treatment by doctors, nurses and lab technicians alike. Such personal treatment is a benefit of having a rural hospital in a small community.

I encourage pre-med students and students unsure about medical school to apply to the Porter Internship next J-term. It was a valuable insight into careers in medicine, and the doctors and lab technicians I shadowed were all eager to teach and give advice. The application for the Porter Internship is made available late summer, and the deadline is early October.

ONE LIFE LEFT

By Brandon Cushman
Senior Columnist

You are a Viking woman named Thora, the leader of your tribe. At least, you were until your ship sank on a raiding voyage and you drowned. Tough luck, considering that those who die in battle are not allowed into Valhalla, the afterlife. But the gods have witnessed your great deeds on Earth and have given you a second chance

— under one condition. You must explore the realm of Ginnungagap and defeat the five Jotun in battle. The Jotun are lesser gods that are often referred to as giants in Norse mythology. Each of these Jotun is associated with an element that shapes their world: nature, ice, earth, wind and fire. Once you have completed your mission, Odin himself challenges you to battle. Only then will you be granted entrance into the afterlife.

The world of *Jotun* is stunningly beautiful. The game is entirely hand-drawn, which makes for a unique aesthetic appearance and sets it apart from many other games in the mythic genre. The game developers took full advantage of this by placing several scenic views throughout the game. When you ap-

proach one, your camera slowly zooms out to reveal an overlook of an ice-covered wasteland or a massive dragon hidden in the background.

Jotun's gameplay is refreshingly simple. There are four controls: move, roll, attack and use an ability. Thora has two types of attacks: a quick one, in which she deftly swings her axe through the air, and a heavy one, in which she lifts the axe over her head before slamming it into the ground. As you explore the realm of Ginnungagap, you discover shrines to the gods. These shrines grant Thora certain powers, such as the ability to heal, shield herself from damage or deliver a devastating heavy attack. The focus is less on what your character can do and more on what your enemies can do.

Jotun is centered on exploration and boss fighting. You must find the runes in each area to unlock the next boss fight. In addition to the runes, each level contains shrines for new powers and items to boost your health. The exploration is mostly puzzle-based, with each puzzle based on the theme of the boss. Often, aspects of each level will tie into the encounter with the Jotun in charge of that area. The areas are well-designed, allow-

ing the artistic style of the game to flourish between boss fights.

The player spends most of their time fighting the Jotun — and these boss fights are as difficult as you want them to be. Though the game is hard enough when played the traditional way, it offers further challenges by awarding achievements for defeating the bosses in other manners — for instance, by banging your head against a wall or by foregoing the use of any abilities whatsoever. Personally, I chose to take the middle ground and fight without drawing on the god powers.

Overall, *Jotun* is a great game. Drawing heavily from Norse mythology in both plot and level design, it features a simplistic play style that is not often found in games of its caliber or difficulty. The boss mechanics will test your skills and patience without relying on cheap tricks. There are clear-cut stages to every en-

counter, each more difficult than the last.

On top of the satisfying combat experience, the developers did a great job with the world itself both in terms of art and the player's interactions with it outside of combat.

My only qualm with *Jotun* was the main character, Thora. Her development is slow, and ends up being rather shallow when compared with other female protagonists like Red from *Transistor* or Aurora from *Child of Light*. She can also feel a bit clunky and slow in her movements, which can be a pain when you are trying to move quickly across a large boss arena.

In closing, I give *Jotun* a 9.0 out of 10. I bought it in search of a challenge, and I found one. Though I have yet to defeat Odin (and have tried more times than I would like to admit), here's to seeing more from Thunder Lotus Games in the future.

Drawing heavily from Norse mythology in both plot and level design, it features a simplistic play style that is not often found in games of its caliber or difficulty. The boss mechanics will test your skills and patience without relying on cheap tricks.

FOR THE RECORD

By Aesop Mulligan
Contributing Columnist

Kendrick Lamar's masterwork *To Pimp A Butterfly* was not recognized as Album of the Year because the art he creates is far too bold to be contained within the safe and comfortable world of "mainstream music," and the Grammy committee simply does not know how to handle that.

In one regard, it is disheartening to witness such an assentive public response to the impudent verdict. Yet the reaction may further demonstrate that the global power of the Grammy Awards is slowly losing steam. Sofia Vergara's last-minute cameo in the grisly finale performance by Armando Christian Pérez (aka Pitbull) encapsulates the impetuous, star-powered culture that the Grammys is still trying to run on after 58 years. It is encouraging to hear listeners voice their opinions over these kinds of contemptible decisions, but the music industry is an unyielding bastion that requires more than passive disagreement to see real change.

It is inspiring to live in a time when younger generations are actively dissatisfied with elite rule as each missed opportunity passes. Although unique in its own context, discontent with the Grammys comes from the same force that has driven so much of the intense social action we have witnessed or been a part of this past year, as well as those of more recent, like #OscarsSoWhite.

To get one thing straight, a lot has gone down since February of last year,

and it is time that the Grammys step up to recognize legitimate change instead of holding the world back. This is not meant in any way to disrespect the other nominees of this year, but simply put, Kendrick is creating something real — trying to change our culture, force an understanding through artistic vision — while others are not.

Take a look at the list of nominees: *Beauty Behind the Madness* by The Weeknd, *Traveller* by Chris Stapleton, *To Pimp a Butterfly* by Kendrick Lamar, 1989 by Taylor Swift and *Sound & Color* by Alabama Shakes. Consider these albums holistically, as greater than the sum of their pieces. Break down each part of the work and step into the mind of the original intent. Never be afraid to disagree. Now ask why each of them is a significant creation of art and seek answers.

Let's begin with Taylor. Without any shadow of a doubt, her team has shaped her to become one of the most powerful celebrity figures on the entire planet. This rise in global status is absolutely astonishing, but the way in which Taylor Swift designed her 1989 project is a simple-minded continuation of her previous successes, and an arrant waste of an exceptional opportunity. Her music has literally reached billions of people. The sheer potential for worldwide change through what she creates is nearly inconceivable, but ironically, that potential is spoiled when such music focuses exclusively on traditional pop themes and ephemeral passion. Although somewhat unique in sound, thanks to brickwall

limiters by Max Martin (the unseen puppeteer behind her recent triumphs), this advancement of progress changes mainstream music at the same glacial pace it has sustained for the last three decades.

The Weeknd's debut might also serve a similar purpose as Taylor Swift's recent collection: to be heard simply as musical euphony and then allow time to wash over its remains until the next big thing is released. As an entity, The Weeknd has created something remarkable this past year — and absolutely blowing up all social media — but how is this any different from its many precursors, aside from carrying slightly darker, bolder overtones?

Country artist Chris Stapleton has been hinting at the importance of breaking down mainstream barriers with his debut *Traveller*. While the Grammys should certainly be commended for recognizing the often disregarded style through a newly rising solo artist, the album still offers little more than a unique development and twist of two separate, but merging, modern styles.

Alabama Shakes' *Sound & Color* is tapping a little further into that mainstream potential, but the album appears to lose its momentum halfway through

and sadly misses the mark. Its first impressions are promising, but it soon releases that intense, discomfiting grip that held the listener in with its well-crafted opening tracks.

And so, we are left with Kendrick: the modern day virtuoso who has graced this world with yet another fragile sliver of his (and so many others') life story. This is real art that talks about real life. This is something that tries to make sense of a senseless world and bring people together, not separate them.

If there is anything that the torn-up communities of the world need right now, it is a sense of togetherness and harmony. And that is what this album shares in a beautifully contradictory, anxiety-filled, blissfully designed and completely deteriorating way that every other recent album has yet to fully achieve.

It is legitimately worrisome that *Butterfly* was not given due recognition by the

world's dominant music judges, but what else can we expect from the Grammys these days? Perhaps it is within the audience to create change, but until passivity transforms into an active voice, let Kendrick's work epitomize how real art will continue to suffocate beneath the crushing weight of mainstream pop.

Consider these albums holistically, as greater than the sum of their pieces. Break down each part of the work and step into the mind of the original intent. Never be afraid to disagree. Now ask why each of them is a significant creation of art and seek answers.



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Men's Squash Looks Ahead to Nationals Following Third Place Finish in the NESCAC Championship

By Will Case
Sports Editor

The men's squash team ended J-term with a couple of eventful weeks. It first concluded the regular season schedule by defeating then 14th-ranked Navy 5-4 on Friday, Jan. 29 at the Yale round robin in New Haven, Conn. and moving past the Midshipmen in the national rankings. The following weekend, Feb. 5-6, the Panthers traveled to Hartford to compete for the NESCAC Championship. The team entered NESCACs as the tournament's second seed – the highest the men's squad has ever been seeded.

Bates knocked off the Panthers 6-3 in the semifinals, but Middlebury made the most of the weekend on Sunday as the team garnered its second win over Williams this season with a 5-4 win in the third place match. The third place finish is the team's best in the conference tournament since finishing third in the 2010-

11 season.

After a whirlwind J-term schedule, the team has two weeks off before nationals, which will be held at Yale on Feb. 25-27.

"I think that these two weeks will work to our advantage – we were all pretty beat up after NESCACs and needed some rest," Wyatt French '17 said. "However, we need to be really focused and smart about how we practice during these two weeks to make sure that we are sharp for nationals."

The only downside to the time off is that the Panthers have been on a tear recently. French has been at the center of this tear, winning each of the last five matches he has played for the Panthers in the third spot of the lineup.

After French managed to get through NESCACs without dropping a single set, he said that "it feels good to be playing well near the end of the year. I was a lot more confident in my drop shot, trickle boast and attacking boast so I was able to attack all four corners of the court well."

"The third place finish is disappointing because we beat Bates earlier in the season, but they are a really good team and we knew that it was going to be hard to beat them again," French said. "It was satisfying to beat Williams in the third place playoff. This is the first year that we have beaten Williams and it feels great to beat them twice in one season."

The only "disappointment" for the Panthers heading into nationals was that they finished third at NESCACs. However, beating a team of Bates' caliber twice in the same season is a tall order. Bates' top player is Ahmed Abdel Khalek from Cairo – a three time all-American, three time NESCAC Player of the Year and the men's defending national champion who appeared in the "Faces in the Crowd" feature in the Apr. 6 edition of *Sports Illustrated* after his undefeated campaign last season.

Looking forward, the Panthers are currently ranked 15th nationally in the most recent College Squash Association,

dropping one spot down after Navy's win over Franklin and Marshall and Middlebury's loss to Bates. The Panthers' rank of 14th heading into NESCACs was its highest since the 2010-11 season which was the last time the team qualified for the B division at nationals. With 16th-ranked Brown as the only challenger behind Middlebury for its 15th ranking, and with the team's 5-4 head-to-head win over the Bears earlier this season, the Panthers look to be a lock for the 15th ranking at nationals.

For seniors like Cromwell, French and Harrison Croll '16 who have won the C bracket at the end of each of their three seasons with the team, a chance to break into the second bracket (played by the teams that finish the regular season ranked nine through sixteen) would be rewarding.

"It is hard to know, but whomever we play in the first round will be beatable and it is up to us to prepare well for that match," French said.

Men's Basketball to Face Wesleyan in Home Playoff

By Joe MacDonald
Sports Editor

The men's basketball team secured a home playoff game set for this Saturday, Feb. 20 against Wesleyan with a couple of conference wins in February. In their first meeting of the season, Middlebury won 86-76 on the road in Middletown, Conn. against Wesleyan. Overall, the Panthers finished 3-3 (2-3 NESCAC) over the final six games, good enough to earn the fourth seed in the eight team NESCAC tournament. The semifinals and finals of the tournament will be played at the home site of the highest remaining seed after this Saturday's quarterfinal action.

The Panthers finished off January with a road trip to Clinton, NY, where they took on Hamilton College and fell to the upstart Continentals 64-62 on a last second tip-in from freshman Andrew Groll. It was a frustrating result for the Panthers after they controlled the game for much of the first half and took a seven-point advantage into halftime. In the second frame, though, the Panthers went ice cold from the floor. They shot 10-34 (29.4 percent) from the field, going 2-8 (25 percent) from beyond the arc and went the final 6:04 of the contest without a basket.

Hamilton fought back and finally evened the score at 62 with 4:28 to play, and that was the last basket until Groll's tip-in winner. Matt St. Amour '17 led Middlebury with 14 points, while center Matt Daley '16 had 12 and seven rebounds, and Adisa Majors '18 racked up eight points and nine boards.

With a few days to get over their last second defeat, the Panthers took to the road on Tuesday, Feb. 2 and took on the Keene State Owls. Though an out-of-conference matchup, this game held particular significance for the team's leading scorer, Matt St. Amour. Two years ago, St. Amour's first-year campaign was cut short when the shooting guard blew out his ACL at Keene State. With that on his mind, St. Amour exploded for a spectacular 32 points on 8-15 (53.3 percent) shooting, 5-9 (55.6 percent) from beyond the arc and 11-11 from the charity stripe.

"I wouldn't say there was extra pressure," St. Amour said, "I was just very anxious. It brought back a lot of memories, just little things like the locker room and the spot I tore [my ACL]. After three quick fouls, I was starting to I'd never actually get the chance to play at Keene State. Luckily, the second half went very well."

Coming out of halftime with the game knotted at 31, the Panthers went on a 17-5 run in the first five minutes, led by St. Amour with eight points and point guard Jack Daly '18 with six points. Keene State shrunk the lead to six with 5:05 to play, but otherwise the lead remained at a comfortable distance, and Middlebury finished off the 83-74 victory.

"It was a big win for us," St. Amour said, "because it proved that we can travel on the road to a tough place to play and beat a tournament level team on their home court. It showed our toughness that we have developed throughout the season."

The following weekend was very kind to Middlebury, as the seniors celebrated their final regular season home series with a pair of victories over Maine rivals Colby and Bowdoin.

The Colby Mules did not make it easy on Saturday, Jan. 6, and the Panthers had to claw their way to a two-point win, 67-65. In many ways, the Mules outplayed Middlebury, making nine three-pointers to Middlebury's two and outrebounding the Panthers 45-28, but ultimately the difference came in the shape of 22 turnovers for Colby and just nine for Middlebury. The Panthers tallied 18 points off of those turnovers; Colby just one. The game featured a staggering 15 lead changes and eight ties. When St. Amour made a layup with 6:57 left in the first half to tie the game at 21-21, there had already been seven lead changes and the deficit had not gone beyond five points. St. Amour's tying lay up came just moments after center Daley made an early exit from the ball game. The big man suffered an elbow to the mouth that caused a chipped tooth and some dizziness, but the injury seemed to spur the Panthers, who then finished the half on a 14-1 run to go up 35-22.

It took Colby nine minutes and 21 seconds to close the gap, tying the game at 47-47 after a 25-12 start to the half. Colby then proceeded to go up 54-47, capping a 32-12 run for the Mules. Middlebury chipped away for the remainder of the half, getting contributions from multiple different players. Majors and Daly scored the final two buckets, both assisted by point man Jake Brown '17, that pushed the Panthers ahead for the 67-65 win. Brown had one of his best offensive games of the season with 18 points and six assists.

The Panthers had a slightly easier time on Senior Day the following afternoon when they bested the Bowdoin

Polar Bears 78-69. Bowdoin boasts the reigning NESCAC Player of the Year and top scorer in the league in senior guard Lucas Hausman and an electric freshman forward by the name of Jack Simonds. Stopping Hausman is usually a losing proposition, but Daly and his backcourt mates did well to force him into tough shots all game. The talented Hausman finished with 29 points but shot under 50 percent from the floor, while Simonds tallied 23 points. The rest of the Bowdoin roster scored just six field goals. For the Panthers, St. Amour matched Hausman shot-for-shot and finished with 26 points of his own and nine rebounds.

"We had a job going into that weekend," Forward Connor Huff '16 said, "and that was to sweep the weekend."

Middlebury's final NESCAC weekend of the regular season saw the Panthers on the road against the league's top two teams, Amherst and Trinity. Middlebury came into the weekend with the chance to secure the No.1 seed in the NESCAC tournament with a weekend sweep, but that proved too tall a task. While the contest between Middlebury and Amherst stayed competitive throughout, the home team never let the Panthers get too close, and Middlebury eventually fell 83-70. Amherst has maintained the best three point field goal percentage defense in all of Division-III for much of the season, and Middlebury was unable to overcome that strength, shooting just 2-11 (18.2 percent) from deep. On the other end, Amherst's 10 made three pointers made the difference. Amherst sharpshooter Jeff Racy was lights out from beyond the arc, going 6-6 for 18 points. Amherst led by as much as 12 halfway through the first half

and continually rebuked any Middlebury challenges over the remaining 30 minutes. Racy, of course, put the game away with two three-pointers in the final three minutes. St. Amour and Majors lead the Panthers in scoring with 20 and 18 points, respectively.

The following day's trip to Hartford, Conn. had a similar feeling, as a 17-7 run by the Bantams midway through the first made the score 33-23 in favor of Trinity and the home team never looked back. The Bantams could not miss from the field or the stripe and wound up with the 97-86 victory. For Middlebury, guard Bryan Jones '17 did his best to bring the Panthers back late in the second half. Jones entered the game with 6:13 to play and Middlebury down by 16, then proceeded to pour in 14 points in a four and a half minute span. The onslaught from Jones was not enough, however, as Trinity could not be stopped offensively. Majors lead all Middlebury scorers with 15 points while also hauling down eight rebounds, and St. Amour tacked on 12 points of his own.

The Panthers are set to host the Wesleyan Cardinals on Saturday, Feb. 20 at 2 p.m. The last playoff meeting between these two programs came in the 2013 NESCAC Championship quarterfinals, a game won by Middlebury 61-49, when this year's seniors were first-years. Middlebury has defeated Wesleyan in the last 13 meetings between the two teams, two of which have come in NESCAC playoff tilts. The Cardinals' last win came on Jan. 15, 2005. With a win, the Panthers will likely have to hit the road to either Trinity, Amherst or Tufts in pursuit of a third NESCAC title.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Trinity	97-86 ^L	The Panthers weren't able to pull off a win in this high scorer.
WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Colby	1-0 ^W	The squad completed their sweep of Colby with a power play goal opportunity.
SWIMMING & DIVING @ NESCAC	4th/11	The women's team hosted the meet and landed in the top half.
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Trinity	77-48 ^L	Women's hoops has struggled and now looks to bounce back from a five-game losing streak.
MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Williams	3-2 ^L	The men's team needs two wins and some luck to secure a home playoff matchup.

Track and Field Finds Continued Success in New Facility

By Rob Erickson
Staff Writer

With each passing week, the Middlebury track and field team has looked more and more ready for the New England Division III Championships coming up this weekend, an important step on the road to Nationals. School records have been falling left and right, going back to the Middlebury Invitational three weeks ago when James Lynch '16 set a new heptathlon score and John Natalone '19 left his own mark on school history in the pole vault.

The ladies had no shortage of stellar performances either: Maddie Provonost '17 gave the Panthers a sweep of both heptathlons by winning the women's, Paige Fernandez '17 took the title in the 500-meter dash, Abigail Nadler '19 crossed the line first in the 1,600-meter competition, and the squad of Halle Gustafson '16, Alexandra Morris '16, Lucy Lang '19, and Jackie Kearney '16 outpaced the competition en route to winning the 4x400 relay.

The weekend after, the squad sent athletes to both the Dartmouth Indoor Classic and the Cupid Challenge at Tufts, where the 4x400 relay team of Lang, Kearney, Fernandez and Morris placed second overall and smashed the old school record by almost three seconds at 3:56.72. James Mulliken '18 led the charge

for the men, separating himself from the field to win the 500-meter dash. Down in Boston, Adrian Walsh '16 smoked the competition in the 5,000-meter race, finishing more than 10 seconds in front of the second-place competitor in the field of 32.

Just this last weekend, Kevin Serrao '18 blew past the previous 800-meter record by more than a second at the David Hemery Valentine Invitational at Boston University; in the same meet, Alex Nichols '17 set a new mark in the 400-meter dash, only to watch Jimmy Martinez '19 break it again minutes later.

Against a field of female athletes from all three divisions, Fernandez placed first in her 500-meter heat and Lauren Bougioukas '16 wound up second in her 800-meter heat.

Morris also lowered the 400-meter mark she already held by a little over half of a second. Her time of 56.43 earned her 20th out of 196 athletes and was the top DIII runner at the meet. She currently sits second in the country.

Lynch, whose performance helped the Panther men land first place out of eight teams at the Middlebury Invitational, spoke about some of the unique challenges that athletes in his event face.

"It's a grind over the two days," he said. "The hard part is going to bed sore on Friday night having competed in the 60-meter

dash, long jump, shot put and high jump, and knowing that you have to wake up the next morning and perform near your best in three more events [60-meter hurdles, pole vault, 1,000-meter dash]."

The women almost did equally well, coming in second out of six (behind Williams). That being said, the ladies will have another chance to compete at the Virtue Field House this next weekend when Middlebury hosts the women's New England DIII Championships.

Newly hired Assistant Coach Jordan Schilit, who boasts his own impressive collegiate athletic resume (six-time DIII All-American in cross-country and track), was very excited by the attention that the meet drew. "Several people had marks that ranked in the top 10 in the country for Division III," he noted. "All of the teams were very excited to compete at our new facility and are looking forward to returning next winter."

Schilit also reflected briefly on his first year working with the Panther athletes. "My job has been extremely enjoyable so far," he said. "I try to bring the same passion and enthusiasm I had as a competitor to my coaching role. The most helpful information I can pass along is how to avoid the mistakes I made as an athlete and to convince the team to not set barriers."

If helping the team avoid barriers has

been his goal thus far, things seem to be according to plan; Lynch could barely contain his optimism as he looked forward to the rest of the season and beyond. "I feel great about this team," he beamed. "We've got some great new faces and our returning athletes are excited to be here. This team is hungry. I would be lying if I told you I didn't know how many days there are until NESCACs. This field house is going to give us incredible momentum into the outdoor season. I am excited for this year, but I think we are really going to see something special out of this team over the next three years."

Looking forward to next week and beyond, Serrao hoped that the team would be able to put the finishing touches on the training that's led them to the success they've had so far. "Personally, I have a lot of strength in my legs right now, but not a lot of speed," he explained. "I think across the board the team is working on improving turnover for the championship season. We've already done the long slow distance, but we all need to get some speed in us to hang with the big league boys in the weeks to come."

For the DIII New England Championships next weekend, the men will be at MIT; the women are looking forward to competing in front of a crowd of Panther fans at home.

Women's Hockey Remains Unbeaten in NESCAC Play

By Ethan Brady
Features Editor

The Middlebury women's hockey team, now 15-4-3, continued their perfect record in the NESCAC, winning two victories each against Colby, Hamilton and Wesleyan. However, they were unable to carry the momentum outside the conference, falling to Norwich in a tight 3-2 matchup.

On Friday, Jan. 29, the team traveled to Clinton, NY, to take its first victory against the Hamilton Continentals, going 1-0 on Friday. Katherine Jackson '19 made the early game-winning goal at 15:30 of the first period, latching on to the rebound off two failed attempts by Shanna Hickman '19. The goal was made entirely by first-years, with both Rachael St. Clair '19 and Hickman being credited for the assist.

With just under a minute left in the game, Hamilton pulled goalie Sam Walther for an extra attacker, but could not sink a shot against Neuburger, fixing the final score at 1-0. Hamilton could not convert on their one power play, but neither could Middlebury on their two. The Panthers more than doubled the Continentals in shots on goal, 23-11.

Middlebury returned to Russell Sage Rink the next day on Jan. 30 to shut out Hamilton 2-0. Grace Jennings '19 scored her first collegiate goal 16 minutes into the first period after ripping the puck from a Hamilton defender near the blueline. Nearing Hamilton goalie Walther, Jennings wristed a shot that Walther nearly stopped. The Continentals had no answer for the second period.

The Panthers furthered their lead to 2-0 at 12:26 of the third period on the power play, when Kelly Sherman '17 made her fourth season goal from an assist from Anna Van Kula '16. A pulled goalie and a Panther penalty in the final two minutes gave Hamilton a six-on-four advantage, but it proved fruitless, handing Middlebury a 2-0 victory.

A battle of top-10 women's hockey foes went down in Northfield, Vt. on Tuesday, Feb. 2, when a late goal by the Norwich Cadets earned them a 3-2 win over Middlebury. The game was also a battle of sisters — Katarina Shuchuk '19 for Middlebury and her twin Maki Shuchuk for Norwich — who squared off after playing on many of the same teams growing up. Both sisters were on the ice for the opening faceoff of the game.

The Cadets took a promising lead just 56 seconds into the game with dual-assist shot taken from a Middlebury skater and one-timed by Erin Joyce, who was waiting in the slot for the puck. Though dominating 5-2 in shots on goal in the first period, Middlebury could not provide an answer. In the second period, Norwich locked a 2-0 lead after the Panthers lost a face-off and Adelle Murphy notched a goal just four seconds into a power play.

Outshooting the Cadets 8-4 in the sec-

ond, the Panthers finally posted an answer halfway through the period, with Janka Hlinka '18 tipping a blueline shot by Julia Wardwell '16 into the net. And at 13:48 of the third, Katherine Jackson '19 hooked a loose puck on a wraparound move to tie the game, with assists from Elizabeth Wulf '18 and Jennings. With three minutes remaining, though, Norwich's Bryn Labbe shot a wrister from the middle of the slot straight past netminder Julia Neuburger '18. The Panthers, who were outshot 2-4 by the Cadets in the third, could not force a tie, and Norwich won the game 3-2.

"The loss was a wake-up call," Hlinka said. "If we are going to have a chance at being the best, we are going to need to find a way to win against teams outside of the NESCAC."

The Panthers returned to Kenyon Arena on Friday, Feb. 5, to take on Wesleyan in a two-game homestand. Wesleyan made the first statement seven minutes into the first off a wrist shot that was tipped in by Cici Frattasio. The Panthers nearly answered a minute later with a shot from the right by Jenna Marotta '19, but the puck hit the crossbar. Jessica Young '18 redeemed that attempt at 14:37 in the first by taking a loose puck from the neutral zone, racing up the left side, and launching it past Cardinal goalie Laura Corcoran.

The Panthers took the lead at 9:30 in the second when top-scorer Maddie Winslow '18 placed the puck behind Wesleyan's goalie and Hickman tipped it in. Winslow scored again in the third period to make it 3-1, bringing her season total to a team-leading nine goals. Wesleyan responded shortly on a power play after a scramble for the puck in front of the Panther net left a loose puck open for a Wesleyan attack. But with 35 seconds remaining, Young placed an insurance goal into Wesleyan's open net to seal the game 4-2.

Middlebury took 33 shots on goal compared to Wesleyan's 14, though Wesleyan went one-for-one on the power play and Middlebury oh-for-two.

The Middlebury women recorded a 5-0 shutout the next day against Wesleyan, their 50th victory against the program, bringing the overall series record between the teams to a staggering 50-0-3. Wulf scored on the first shift for the Panthers off a short pass behind the net from classmate Jessica Young '18. With 3:35 left in the opening period, Grace Jennings '19 placed a drop pass from Katherine Jackson '19 over Cardinal goalie Corrine Rivard's left shoulder.

The Panthers added two more goals in the second period to extend their lead to four. Hickman tallied the first of those, as she swatted in a centering pass from Winslow at 5:11 into the middle frame. Winslow made it 4-0 after Young created a turnover just inside the Wesleyan blue line, using a backhand to beat Rivard with 27 seconds left in the period.

Middlebury finished off the scoring in the third period, as Winslow collected a puck in the slot and fired a hard shot under the crossbar for her second goal of the game. The Panthers nearly doubled the Cardinals in shots on goal, 32-18, and Wesleyan could not capitalize on their one power play. Verplancke earned her first collegiate shutout with 17 saves. Wardwell played in her 100th career game for the Panthers and earned the primary assist on the team's goal in the third period.

"Our games against Wesleyan were a great test of our grit and or progress. Our underclassmen really stepped up and got us some crucial points for the win," Wardwell said. "Playing in my 100th game was surreal."

The team took to Waterville, Me., on Friday, Feb. 12 to face the Colby Mules, leaving with two victories, 2-1 and 1-0. The game on Friday went scoreless for the first period, with Neuburger making 16 saves. The Mules had the first goal at 11:58 in the second by Katie McLaughlin, to which the Panthers had no immediate answer despite 10 blocked shots in that period. But at 13:08 in the third, Winslow netted her team-leading 12th goal of the season, and three minutes later Hlinka brought the score to 2-1 for her second goal of the year. The Mules' aggressiveness — with 30 shots on goal compared to Middlebury's 23 — did not translate to the scoreboard.

On Saturday, the Middlebury women ran their NESCAC regular-season unbeaten streak to 27 — having only tied five times — with a 1-0 shut-out against Colby. The lone goal came on a power play at 17:58 in the middle period, when Young one-timed a pass by Wulf for her eighth of the

season. With the goal, Young extended her point streak to four games, recording three goals and seven assists (3-7-10) during that stretch. The Panthers held a 27-18 edge in shots on goal, after having been outshot 5-8 in the first period.

With their impressive conference record (11-0-3), matched only by Amherst's 11-1-2, the Panthers have secured home ice for the NESCAC quarterfinal game, to take place on Saturday, Feb. 27 in Chip Kenyon '85 Arena. Middlebury will secure the top seed if the ladies manage not to lose either of their final two games against Williams (8-6-0). Even with two ties against Williams, Kenyon Arena would become the site of the NESCAC semifinals and finals on March 5 and 6. The question is whether the lossless streak of 22 wins and 5 ties can last just two more games.

BY THE NUMB3RS

2 School records broken by the women's swimming & diving team at the NESCAC Championship this past weekend.

Seconds separating Middlebury skier Rob Cone '17 from the winning racer in the giant slalom at the Dartmouth Carnival.

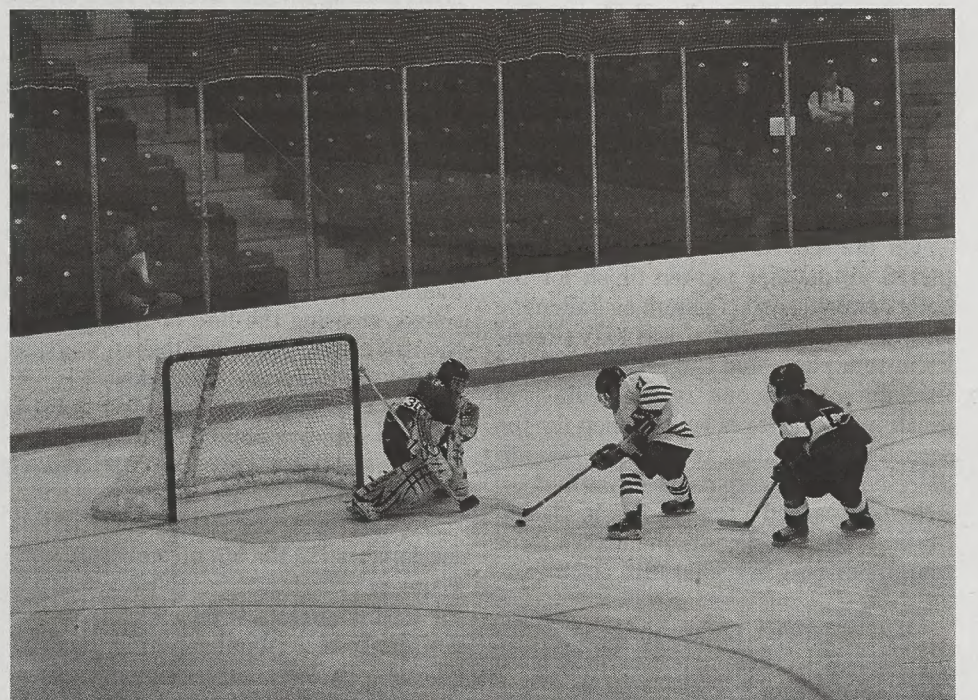
0.51

9 Wyatt French '17 won all 9 of his sets at the NESCAC playoffs.

Points for Matt St. Amour '17 in a win for men's basketball at Keene State, where he tore his ACL two years ago.

32

56.43 Record-breaking time in the 400-meter dash for Alex Morris '16 at the David Hemery Valentine Invitational.



Women's hockey forward Rachael St. Clair '19 makes a one-on-one goal attempt in the team's 4-2 victory over Wesleyan on Friday, Feb. 5 at Kenyon Arena.

Women's Squash to Return to Action at Nationals

By Sebastian Sanchez
Contributing Writer

The women's squash team headed to Hartford, Conn. for the NESCAC tournament over the weekend of Feb. 6-7. The Panthers entered the tournament ranked 15th in the nation and third in the conference.

The Panthers dismantled Hamilton in the quarterfinal match winning 8-1. Middlebury had strong performances from Zoe Carey '16, Alexa Comai '19 and Beatris Kuijpers '19.

Kuijpers started an exceptionally strong weekend at the NESCAC tournament by winning in straight sets against Hamilton with scores of 11-4, 11-3 and 11-3. Kuijpers would later have the only

victory for the Panthers when the team fell to Williams in the semifinals.

Coach Mark Lewis said that "the loss to Williams was tough. Carey and Comai lost in five close games so the score line of 8-1 was not indicative of how close the match was."

After beating Hamilton, the third ranked Panthers renewed their classic NESCAC rivalry with Williams. Earlier in the season, Middlebury lost 7-2 with wins from Carey and Comai.

Though Middlebury put up a strong fight, Williams beat back the surge of Blue and White and beat the Panthers 8-1, ending Middlebury's NESCAC Championship run.

This time around, Kuijpers had the sole victory against the Eph's, winning

in straight sets in the third slot.

"She is extremely hard working and the epitome of a competitor," injured player Liddy Renner '18 said of her first-year teammate Kuijpers. "As soon as she steps on the court it's clear that she is focused and willing to let her opponent come out on top. She's been a rock for our team this season."

She won her first two matches 11-6 and completed the sweep with an 11-4 win.

"Bea [Kuijpers] has been a very tough competitor all season — a reliable win [for the team]," Lewis said about the first-year standout. "Her fighting spirit and work ethic inspire her teammates day in and day out."

After the loss against Williams,

Middlebury competed against Amherst for third place. The Panthers beat the Lord Jeff 8-1 and won the third place for the second year in a row.

"The team came out firing on all cylinders," Lewis said of the team's effort against Amherst. "Convincing wins by Carey, Comai, Kuijpers [and] Lucy Bostwick '18 put us in the lead. Audrey Ellen '17 and Hope Matthews '18's tough four game victories put us over the top."

After securing the win, the Panthers improved to 8-7 and will return to the National Team Championships.

Overall, the Panthers have had a strong season and look to make a run in the B division at nationals Feb. 25-27 at Yale.

MEN'S HOCKEY MUST WIN TO SECURE HOME PLAYOFF GAME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

the Cardinals capitalized on the 5-on-3 power play to make it a one goal game entering the third period.

Wesleyan tied the game a little over eight minutes into the final period. Once again, neither team could break the tie, and the Panthers tied their second straight game.

After going ahead of Wesleyan 2-0 on Friday, Middlebury found themselves behind Trinity by the same score at the end of the first period on Saturday. Trinity scored on the power play 2:42 into the game and then later in the period, also, as the Bantams outshot the Panthers 16-2 in the first third of the game. Travis Stephens '18 got the Panthers on the board a little over halfway through the second period, but Trinity regained its two goal lead later in the same period and then added an insurance goal in the third period for the 4-1 win. Moorfield-Yee stopped 39 shots, but the Bantams outshot the

Panthers 43-18, thoroughly dominating play.

In their final two games before the spring semester began, the Panthers played a doubleheader with first-place Williams, traveling to Williams on Thursday, Feb. 11 before hosting the Ephs the next day, dropping both games by one goal after leading early by two.

Just past the halfway point of the first period on Thursday, Feb. 11, Zach Haggerty '16 received the puck at his own blue line, beat three Williams defenders in the neutral zone and backhanded a shot into the back of the net for a 1-0 Middlebury lead. The Ephs countered with a goal later that period, and the contest was tied after one period.

Haggerty scored his second goal of the game by being in the right place at the right time, getting to a loose puck in the crease and knocking it home 6:09 into the second period. Ronald Fishman '16 extended the Panthers' lead to two

off a feed from Neugold and, with one period to go against the conference-leading Ephs, held a 3-1 lead.

The Ephs quickly and decisively took a 4-3 lead in less than 14 minutes. A minute after Williams took the lead, the Panthers went on the power play and Zach Weier '18 scored his first career goal from the point, tying the game at four. Moorfield-Yee did all he could in regulation, saving 45 of the 50 shots on goal, but Colby Cretella beat him one minute into overtime to win the game 5-4 for Williams.

Middlebury scored first again on Friday when, on the power play, Stephens gathered a Najjar shot that ricocheted off the boards and slid it past Williams netminder Michael Pinios. Haggerty scored his third goal in two games and seventh on the season to tie for the team lead with Gisonti over halfway through the second period, but the Ephs answered with two goals to tie the game entering the final twenty

minutes of regulation. They took the lead less than four minutes into the third and would not relinquish it the rest of the day.

"We made enough little mistakes that a team as skilled as Williams was able to capitalize on them and come back from a 2 goal deficit," said Haggerty.

Middlebury pulled Moorfield-Yee with 1:12 remaining and earned a power play 37 seconds later, giving the Panthers a two-man advantage for the last 35 seconds of regulation. Tkaczuk took a shot to tie the game, but it was blocked and Williams won for the second straight night.

The Panthers, now 6-10-6 overall and 5-5-6 in the NESCAC, slid to sixth in the NESCAC standings, directly behind Hamilton in fourth and Amherst in fifth. In their final two regular season games, they host Hamilton and Amherst on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 20-21, with the opportunity to leapfrog both in the standings if they win both contests.

PANTHERS SKIERS FIND SUCCESS IN RECENT CARNIVALS

By Nicole Roos
Staff Writer

Over the past few weeks, the Panther ski teams have combined for two fourth place finishes at the University of Vermont and Dartmouth carnivals. At the UVM carnival, the alpine team was first to compete on Jan. 29-30, while the Nordic portion of the carnival took place on Feb. 5-6.

First-year Caroline Bartlett '19 paced the alpine women in the first day of racing with a strong sixth-place finish in the giant slalom. Lexi Calcagni '19 was next for the Panthers, crossing the finish line with a season-best 11th place. Elle Gilbert '16 rounded out the scorers in 22nd place. The men's team had a difficult day, as Rob Cone '17, Riley Plant '18 and Christopher McKenna '17 each went down during their respective first runs. Colin Hayes '17 was the top finisher on the men's side, crossing the line in 12th place, while Ghassan Gedeon Achi '16 finished in 19th place. Christoph Niederhauser '16 rounded out the group in 31st.

On the second day of racing, Bartlett picked up another top-ten finish for the Lady Panthers, placing ninth overall in the slalom. Close behind her was Katy Greene '17 in 12th place, and Gilbert, who battled through some second run difficulties to finish in 38th. Hayes led the men for the second-straight day, tying for a seventh place finish. A few spots back was Gedeon Achi, who earned a top-ten finish, placing ninth. Niederhauser was the team's third scorer, finishing in a solid 18th place overall.

Alpine Captain Linley Shaw '17 is doing her best to keep herself and the team motivated during a season that has been plagued by difficult snow conditions.

"In addition, I just want to inspire my

team to keep improving until the snow melts! I'm optimistic that as a team, we could place in the top three for these last two carnivals."

The Nordic ski team returned to action after a week-long break on Feb. 5-6, taking part in the UVM Carnival at the Crafts-bury Outdoor Center. The Panther women were paced by the strong duo of Kelsey Phinney '16 and Annie Pokorny '16. Phinney continued her excellent season with a second place finish in the 5K freestyle. Competing in her first race since returning to Middlebury, Pokorny earned a fourth-place finish, while senior Nicolette Amber '16 was the team's final scorer, earning in a 23rd-place finish. Patrick McElravey '17 led the Middlebury men in the 10K freestyle, placing seventh overall. Next for the team was first-year racer Lewis Nottontson '19, who crossed the line in 31st place. Rounding out the team's scorers was Sam Wood '19 with a 35th-place finish.

Pokorny and Phinney turned in another solid day of racing in the 10K classic race, placing second and fourth, respectively. Kaitlin Fink '16 rounded out the team score with a 21st place finish. On the men's side, Evan Weinman '18 paced the squad, crossing the line in 19th place in the 10K classic event. Nottontson was next for the Panthers in 23rd, followed by Jacob Volz '18 in 30th. Dartmouth won the carnival with 972 points, followed by Vermont (912), New Hampshire (723) and the Panthers (669).

A pair of podiums and a handful of top-ten finishes led the alpine and Nordic ski teams to a combined fourth place finish in the Dartmouth Carnival on Feb. 12-13. The University of Vermont captured the overall title with 888 points, followed by Dartmouth (858), UNH (826) and Middlebury (645).

The alpine team kicked things off in

Friday's giant slalom, where Cone landed on the podium in second place. McKenna was close behind in 10th place and Hayes rounded out the scoring in 12th place. Bartlett paced the women's team again with a 14th place finish. Gilbert finished in 22nd place, while Greene was close behind in.

In Saturday's alpine slalom race, Hayes led the men's team, earning a season-best fourth place finish. Cone was next for the men, finishing in seventh, and Gedeon-Achi crossed the finish line in 18th. Calcagni was the first finisher for the Panther women, claiming 16th place. Gilbert just missed the top-20, placing 21st overall, while captain Shaw finished in 23rd.

Saturday's Nordic races were highlighted by another win from Phinney. Phinney's win in the 15K classic race was her third of the season. Pokorny was the next to finish, coming in 11th place, while Amber placed 18th in the race. Pacing the Nordic men in the 20K classic was Weinman in 32nd place. Volz and Nottontson were close behind, finishing in 36th and 40th place, respectively.

The Panthers have placed fourth in all four carnivals thus far, but are hoping to improve on that for the last two carnivals of the season.

"We are hoping to build on the strong results from the men's race at Dartmouth," Head Alpine Coach Stever Bartlett said. "With a little luck and a few less mistakes, the goal [for the guys] is to win the giant slalom and slalom in the final two carnivals. For the women, we are really hoping two more people for NCAA's."

The Panthers return to action next weekend on Feb. 19-20 at the Williams Carnival before hosting the NCAA Regional Final during Winter Carnival weekend.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM Plunkett's Predictions
1	WOMEN'S HOCKEY <i>The team was busy over Feb break, adding four conference wins.</i>
2	SWIMMING & DIVING <i>The women's team set two school records as the hosts of the NESCAC Championship.</i>
3	SQUASH <i>Both squads landed third-place finishes at NESCACs.</i>
4	SKIING <i>The men and women were both strong at the Dartmouth Carnival.</i>
5	MEN'S HOCKEY <i>After a rough couple weeks, the team looks to secure a home playoff game.</i>
6	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL <i>The team had a tough time over break with four straight losses.</i>
7	MEN'S BASKETBALL <i>We'll see how they do in the upcoming NESCAC tournament.</i>
8	SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURES <i>The groundhog was wrong.</i>

WOMEN'S SWIMMING SETS RECORDS IN NESCAC FINALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

50 free (24.52) as well.

Meanwhile, Bangs and Katie Aman '19 swept the top two spots in the 200 fly with times of 2:11.64 and 2:13.48, respectively, and Andrews placed third in 200 free (1:58.27) — just 0.07 seconds off of the second place time.

Middlebury earned second through fourth place in the 500 free, with Alaina Pribis '19 in second (5:14.84), Burke in third (5:15.02) and Bangs in fourth (5:15.61, PR).

Wyer was runner-up in the 200 IM (2:09.05), and won the 200 back (2:04.88), just in front of second-place finisher Katie Corrigan '19, who clocked her second personal record of the meet at 2:12.70.

When it came to breaststroke events, Pierce placed third in 200 (2:30.87), while Jen Koide '17 placed third in the 100 (1:08.34) with MacCowatt less than a second behind (1:08.98, PR).

Coming out of the Middlebury Invitational, the women had two weeks before hosting the Women's NESCAC Championship on Feb. 12-14, where they placed fourth out of 11 with a score of 1090.5: just one position below last year's finish.

On the diving platform, DeNun-

zio racked up enough points to secure seventh place in the one-meter final (347.50) and fifth place on the three-meter platform (391.25).

"This was a team that set out day one to be successful while enjoying each other and performing instinctively. They achieved all of that," said Bob Rueppel, who was named the NESCAC Women's Swimming Coach of the Year on Tuesday, Feb. 16 after five years at the helm of the program. His swimmers have set a total of 24 school records and multiple All-American accolades.

Not only did Griffin and Wyer make the All-NESCAC team with their top-three finishes in the meet, but they also broke a total of three school records in the process. On top of their record-breaking swims, Griffin placed seventh in the 100 fly (56.86), and Wyer placed sixth in the 200 back (2:03.27).

Griffin bested her own record by 0.05 seconds on Friday in the preliminary rounds of the 50 fly (25.29), before placing third in the event final with a time of 25.44.

Wyer's won the 500 free final by a margin of 2.74 seconds earlier that night; time of 4:54.36 in the 500 free earlier that night was fast enough to win the

NESCAC by a margin of 2.74 seconds, and to break Middlebury's record (set by Marika Ross in 2007) by 4.51 seconds.

On Saturday, Feb. 13, Wyer swept the championship heat of the 200 free with her second record-setting time of 1:50.36, eclipsing Nora Daly's 2010 mark of 1:51.00. Burke touched the wall less than three seconds later to come in fifth (1:52.63).

The Panthers' 200 free quartet of Burke, Wyer, Griffin and Andrews (1:36.47) finished fourth, and the medley relay of team of Sarah Bartholomae '18, MacCowatt, Griffin and Andrews placed eighth (1:47.00).

Burke, Griffin, Wyer and Andrews also earned sixth in the 400 free (3:29.31), while Wyer, Burke, Kristin Karpowicz '19 and Andrews touched the wall fifth in the 800 free (7:36.82).

Individually, Burke tied for 10th in the consolation final of the 50 free (24.40), and clinched fourth in the 100 free 51.94.

Lily Sawyer '16, Carroll and Pollack placed 10th, 11th and 13th in the 200 fly with respective times of 2:08.94, 2:09.03 and 2:09.74. Additionally, Pierce got eighth in the 400 IM (4:39.66), followed closely by Stimson in 11th place (4:39.04).

In the Panthers' distance events, Lucy Scott '16 swam to ninth in the 1,000 free (10:33.09) and eighth in the 1,650 free (17:41.22).

Cumulatively, the Middlebury women clocked in eight NCAA 'B' Cut times, which they hope will qualify them to compete in the NCAA Division III Championships in Greensboro, North Carolina on March 16-20.

"Our 800 free relay is currently ninth in the nation but fifth in the NESCAC... an indication how good this conference is in swimming," Rueppel commented. "We hope the 400 free relay [will make] the cut. Isabel [Wyer] will compete in the 500/200 free and 200 back, and Morgan Burke in the 200/100 free. If the 400 free relay makes it, Meg [Griffin] will swim the 100 fly."

Rueppel "was thrilled with our weekend. Simply put, [it was] a culmination of 5 years of work. Our seniors were my first recruiting class and had blind faith in the future of the program[, and our] NESCAC performances were a reflection of that. They [have] led this team to success I hoped for but never imagined."

The men's teams will travel to Williams for NESCAC Championships this coming weekend, Feb. 19-21.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CONFRONTS LATE SEASON CHALLENGES

By Colby Morris
Contributing Writer

The Middlebury women's basketball team certainly has their work cut out for them after enduring a hard-luck patch in their schedule. The Panthers have lost their last five games, including four in conference play, to fall under .500 (11-12) on the season. The road to a NESCAC championship will be challenging and while they still have a shot to win it all, the team will seek to recapture some of its early season potential.

Despite a spirited 26-14 fourth quarter run, Middlebury lost 64-56 on Feb. 2 to a solid Keene State team in a non-conference game, the first of three straight road games. Sarah Kaufman '18 carried the team with 23 points, seven rebounds, three assists with one steal, and Colleen Cavaney '19 added 13 points in the loss.

The team next traveled to Waterville, ME, for a road game against Colby on Feb. 5. With the teams tied in the NESCAC standings at 3-3, the intensity was high as conference tournament seeding was in the balance.

The Panthers again found themselves in an early hole as Colby got off to a quick start, sinking their first 10 shots en route to an early 11 point lead. The Mules were too much for the Panthers, shooting a blistering 46 percent from three point range -- out shooting Middlebury 12 to nothing beyond the arc. Overall, the Mules took 21 more shots than the Panthers who fell 65-47.

In the defeat, Cavaney had another strong game with 15 points, three rebounds and 3 assists while Eileen Daley '18 added 15 points and five boards.

The Panthers stayed in Maine to face Bowdoin in Brunswick. In a reversal of their prior two games, the Panthers struck early and led 15-14 as the first quarter came to a close thanks to six early points from Catherine Harrison '19. But Bowdoin pulled out of its early funk to take a 13 point halftime lead. The Panthers could not find the basket at the end of the half, shooting just one of 10 from the floor in the second quarter. Despite trading buckets with the Wildcats in the second half the Panthers could not mount a comeback,

succumbing 63-46. As has been the case throughout the rough-patch, the Panthers' opponent once again had a hot hand from the floor. Bowdoin shot 46 percent and made 11 shots from three point range.

The Panthers returned to Pepin Gymnasium on Feb. 12 to face Amherst, who came in ranked seventh nationally. In this case, a scrappy David got trounced by bully Goliath. The more experienced Amherst team took an eye-popping 105 shots compared to the Panthers' 54. The visitors dominated all facets of the game and won 77-24. The home squad shot just 19 percent from the field and was one for 11 from beyond the arc. With 11 points, Harrison was the only Panther to score double digit points, her second consecutive game scoring in double figures.

On Feb. 13th, with no day's rest, the beleaguered and tired Panthers faced Trinity in their last NESCAC game of the regular season. Trinity started the season 9-1 before having their own struggles and dropping nine straight NESCAC games. Unfortunately, the Trinity seniors picked up their game

and played particularly well, helping their team outscore the Panthers 60-32 in the first three quarters, and 77-48 after the final buzzer sounded. Cavaney had another solid game with 12 points for the home team while Kaufman led Middlebury, adding 15 points of her own.

On Tuesday, Feb. 16, Middlebury traveled to Colby-Sawyer and defeated the Chargers 46-37. Daley led the team in scoring and rebounding, with 15 points and 14 rebounds, while Kaufman added 13 points and assisted on three more baskets.

"[We must] respond and use these losses to refocus," said Cavaney after the tough stretch.

This will be especially important for the Panthers as they face the tough task of going to Medford, Mass. to face the eighth ranked team in the country in Tufts that routed Middlebury 57-37 earlier this year.

Middlebury still has a chance to salvage its season at NESCACs by reaching the semifinals at NESCACs for the first time since 2013.

EDITORS' PICKS



ANDREW RIGAS (30-22, .576)



REMO PLUNKETT (46-39, .541)



ALEX MORRIS (86-81, .514)



WILL CASE (4-4, .500)



EMILY BUSTARD (55-62, .470)

Men's Basketball: Will Midd beat Wesleyan in the first round of the NESCAC playoffs?

YES

They haven't lost at home yet, and I don't think they will this weekend either.

YES

Home court advantage will be huge for the team as they start their playoff run.

NO

I don't know if they have momentum going for them. I hope I'm wrong.

YES

Thirteen straight wins in this series and a home playoff game...all signs point to a Panthers win.

YES

Home-court advantage.

NBA pick'em: Who wins, Spurs (45-8) @ Clippers (35-18) tonight?

SPURS

Timmy Duncan is back in action, and the Spurs will win this one easily.

SPURS

I'm letting their record do the talking on this pick.

SPURS

I've never been a fan of the Clippers.

SPURS

First game of a long road trip for the Spurs, but fresh legs off the all-star break carry them to a win.

SPURS

Apparently they're the NBA's best team...

Men's Swimming and Diving: Can the men finish higher than last year's seventh place in the NESCAC championships?

YES

I'll trust you guys on this one.

YES

I'm feeling a top-5 finish from the squad this year.

YES

I think they have it in them. #positivethoughts

YES

They have improved since last year. The more seasoned Panthers get a better result.

YES

They've been swimming fast this season.

NHL pick'em: Who wins, Red Wings (29-19-9) @ Penguins (28-19-7) tonight?

PENGUINS

The Red Wings may have Zetterberg and Larkin, but they don't have Sidney.

RED WINGS

They've got some serious scoring power between Zetterberg and Larkin.

PENGUINS

Last ever spring semester guys, I gotta get back on top.

PENGUINS

Home ice paves the way to a Pittsburgh victory.

PENGUINS

I love penguins!



ELIOT VANVALKENBURG

Panther Swimmers Set Records at Home

The Middlebury swimming & diving teams faced strong competition at the Middlebury Invitational on Jan. 29-30 before the women's team took the pool as hosts of the NESCAC Championship meet held this past weekend. The men will return to action this weekend for the conference championship at Williams' home pool.

See below for full coverage.

MEN'S HOCKEY LOOKS TO REBOUND FROM LOSING STREAK, SECURE SPOT IN PLAYOFF

By Andrew Rigas
Sports Editor

Entering its last weekend of the regular season, the Middlebury men's hockey team still has a chance to earn a home game in the NESCAC playoffs, but those chances are much slimmer after a tough six game stretch that includes a current three game losing streak. The Panthers beat Connecticut College 1-0 on Jan. 29, tied Tufts and Wesleyan on Jan. 30 and Feb. 5, then lost to Trinity and Williams twice on Feb. 6 and Feb. 11-12, respectively, falling from fourth to sixth in the NESCAC standings.

Middlebury was the favorite entering its home matchup with Conn. College, who sat winless in the NESCAC on Friday, Jan. 29, but that was not the case for much of the game. It looked like the Panthers took the lead halfway through the first period when Terrance Goguen '16 fired a shot from the left circle that appeared to find the back of the net, but upon conferring, the referees waved the goal off. Both teams had several power play opportunities, five for the Panthers and four for the Camels, but neither could capitalize on their advantages.

Late in the third period, as the Panthers attempted to kill a penalty, Vincent Gisonti '18 out-hustled the opposition to a puck in the Camels' end and wrapped it around, but Camel netminder Tom Conlin stopped the attempt to force overtime. Just past the midway point of overtime, Conn. College turned the puck over at their own blue line and Gisonti got to it first

once again. He carried the puck down the left side and slung a wrist shot above Conlin's left shoulder and just below the bar for his team-leading seventh goal of the season.

The 1-0 Middlebury victory was the team's first overtime win in six tries this season. Stephen Klein '18 was stout in net all night, stopping 24 shots, and recorded his third shutout of the season.

The following night, the Panthers hosted Tufts (2-6-3 in the NESCAC entering the contest) hoping to win two games in a row for the first time this season. However, Tufts scored first when David Lackner beat Klein on a rebound 5:56 into the contest on a Jumbo power play. Early in the second period, Tufts netminder Mason Pulde stopped a shot from Mark McLellan '18, but Jake Charles '16 was there to put the rebound in and tie the game at one apiece. Tufts went back ahead later in the period and held a 2-1 lead entering the final third of regulation.

Three minutes into the third period, Evan Neugold '16 fed Mike Najjar '17, who backhanded a shot past Pulde to tie the game. Less than four minutes later, the Jumbos once again responded to take the lead, converting on the power play for the second time in two tries. With less than three minutes remaining in regulation, Middlebury went on the power play for the sixth time after failing to score in its first five one-man advantages. Almost immediately, the puck ended up with Klein, who handed it off to Neugold.

Neugold skated up the ice and into the Tufts zone, past the blue line and what looked like an intentional pick set by a Middlebury player. Neugold beat the Tufts defense down the right side and set up Brendan McGovern '16 in front of a wide open net and the Panthers were able to tie the game at three.

"That definitely wasn't how we drew it up, but we knew that it would be a 4-on-3 situation with a lot of room on the ice to make a play," Neugold said. "I tried to take advantage of how much room they gave me and how flat-footed they were at their own blue line."

The game ended in a 3-3 tie as neither team could score in the waning minutes of regulation or overtime.

The Panthers traveled to Connecticut the following weekend, Feb. 5-6, to face-off against Wesleyan and Trinity. On Friday, the Panthers took control against Wesleyan (2-4-6 in the NESCAC) early, as Kamil Tkaczuk '19 and McLellan scored within the first five minutes of the game. It marked McLellan's first goal of the season. Wesleyan got one goal back later that period, but Neugold responded with his fifth goal of the season in the second third.

Shortly after Neugold's goal, starting goalie Klein exited the game with an apparent injury and Liam Moorfield-Yee '16 entered as his replacement between the posts. Late in the second period, Charles and Spencer Cage '19 were both sent to the penalty box, and

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WOMEN'S SWIMMING PLACES FOURTH IN NESCAC

By Emily Bustard
Sports Editor

After a long season of preparation, the Middlebury Swimming and Diving teams recorded multiple best-times over the past three weeks in two of the most important culminating meets: the Middlebury Invitational and Women's NESCAC Championship. Though team scores were not recorded in the Middlebury Invitational (Jan. 29-30), this last meet of the regular season gave the Panther men and women the opportunity to race tough competitors from Williams, Springfield, Tufts and the University of Vermont. Two weekends later, the Middlebury women hosted NESCAC Championships, placing fourth out of 11 teams with 1,090.5 points over the course of three days (Feb. 12-14).

The 'A' relay team of Bryan Cheuk '16, Paul Lagasse '16, Jack McLaughlin '18 and Brendan Leech '19 began the meet for the Middlebury men with a victory in the 200 freestyle relay (1:26.07). Building upon their teammates' success, Justin Cho '17, Stefan Pla '18, Jack Dowling '19 and Stephan Koenigsberger '16 later touched the wall first in the 400 medley relay in 3:35.08.

The quartet of Eric Stanton '17, Dowling, Andrew Grant '17 and Leech went on to earn second in the longer, 800 free relay (7:11.57), while the teams of Noel Antonisse '17, Nathaniel Smith '16, Alex Smith '18 and Koenigsberger, and Lagasse, Grant, Charlie Nuss '19 and McLaughlin, each finished third in the 200 medley relay (1:38.57) and the 400 free relay (3:16.15), respectively.

Dowling and Grant each picked up victories for the Panthers with top individual performances in the 200 fly (1:57.47) and 100 breast (1:01.33), respectively.

Meanwhile, Connor McCormick '18 placed second in the 1,000 free (9:48.55), and Chris Mombello '18 took third in both the 200 IM (1:59.91) and 100 breast (1:01.78).

Michael McGean '17 secured fourth place in the 200 free with his personal-best time of 1:46.43, coming in just behind Koenigsberger who took third (1:46.17). Koenigsberger missed the podium in the 500 free by just 58 hundredths of a second (fourth, 4:52.69).

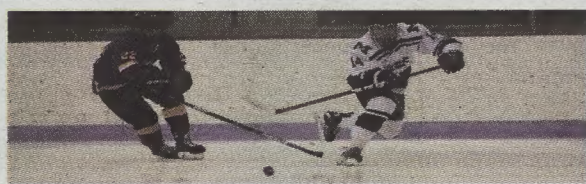
Elissa DeNunzio '18 (363.15) and Will Greene '19 (408.35) finished third in the one-meter diving competition, while Greene earned enough points (439.35) on the three-meter board to clinch second.

On the women's side, Middlebury won four relays in the 200 free (Morgan Burke '17, Isabel Wyer '18, Megan Griffin '16 and Stephanie Andrews '18, 1:37.42), the 800 free (Burke, Wyer, Caitlin Carroll '17 and Maddie Pierce '16, 7:49.97), the 200 medley (Caroline Kelly '16, Liza MacCowatt '19, Griffin and Kelly Delane '18, 1:49.95) and the 400 medley (Claire Treesh '17, MacCowatt, Margaret Pollock '18 and Grace Stimson '19, 4:03.50).

The women clocked in podium finishes in individual events as well. With a time of 58.00, Griffin won the 100 fly — the event in which Audrey Bangs '18 personal record of 58.85 earned her fifth place. Griffin went on to place second in the

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